MEASURING SASKATCHEWAN'S PROGRESS:
Performance Indicators for Saskatchewan's Economy

October 2009

ENTERPRISE
SASKATCHEWAN

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Executive Summary

The Enterprise Saskatchewan Act requires Enterprise Saskatchewan (ES) "to establish, measure, monitor and report on goals and targets for Saskatchewan's economy." ES is looking at providing performance indicator reports in the spring and fall of each year, with a report on performance indicators for community, workforce and quality of life planned for spring 2010.

The current report outlines 25 performance indicators which will be used to monitor Saskatchewan's competitiveness and economic progress over time and in relation to the other provinces and Canada as a whole. The "colour coded" chart (following page) summarizes the performance of these 25 indicators in 2008 (or latest year of available data), and in comparison to the other provinces. For each indicator, the colour green means that Saskatchewan placed in the top three provinces; red indicates a placement in the bottom three provinces; and orange indicates Saskatchewan ranks among the middle four provinces.

Five of the indicators are considered to be "core" indicators for the provincial economy: (1) growth in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP), (2) population growth, (3) employment growth, (4) growth in personal disposable income per capita (a typical measure of "standard of living"); and, (5) growth in manufacturing shipments, as a measure of the province's economic diversification. Supplementing these five "core" indicators are another 20 indicators, which provide more detail in the areas of economic performance, innovation, and business environment.

In 2008 Saskatchewan had an exceptional year in terms of economic performance, benefitting from the global resource boom which dominated much of the year. Saskatchewan was one of Canada's leading economic lights in 2008, recording the highest growth rate in real GDP, the second-highest employment growth rate, the third-largest percentage gain in population, the highest growth in personal disposable income (PDI) per capita, and the second-fastest growth in manufacturing. Last year Saskatchewan was among the top three provinces in all five of the "core" indicators.

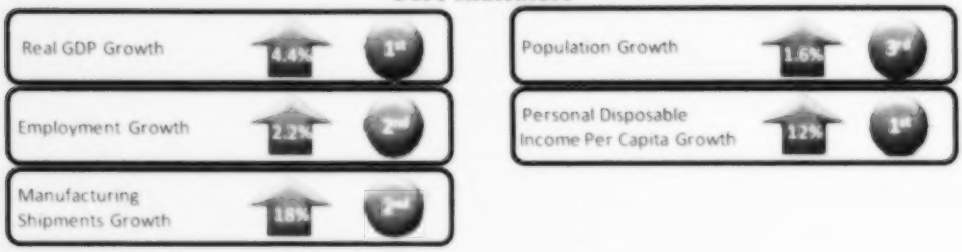
Of the 10 economic performance indicators, Saskatchewan ranked among the top three provinces (green) on seven of them and in the middle (orange) on the other three. The story was not as good for indicators that measure Saskatchewan's innovation performance, with three of the six indicators ranked among the middle four provinces (orange) and three among the lowest-ranked provinces (red). The indicators suggest that innovation remains a challenge for Saskatchewan. The situation was much better for the four business climate indicators, as two were green and two were orange. Overall, for the 25 indicators, Saskatchewan ranked among the top three provinces on 14, and among the bottom three provinces on only three indicators.

The performance indicators show that in 2008, and generally over the last five years, Saskatchewan had a relatively high and improving standard of living, a healthy labour market (with room for improvement among youth and First Nations and Métis people), and a thriving resource-based economy. In light of the current global economic downturn, it is unlikely that the province's economy will perform at the same level in 2009 as it did last year. However, the province is well positioned to resume growth once the global recovery, widely expected for 2010, takes hold.

In addition, addressing the various challenges facing the economy, and thereby improving the province's business, economic and innovation performance, will secure Saskatchewan's prosperity for the benefit of current and future generations of Saskatchewan residents.

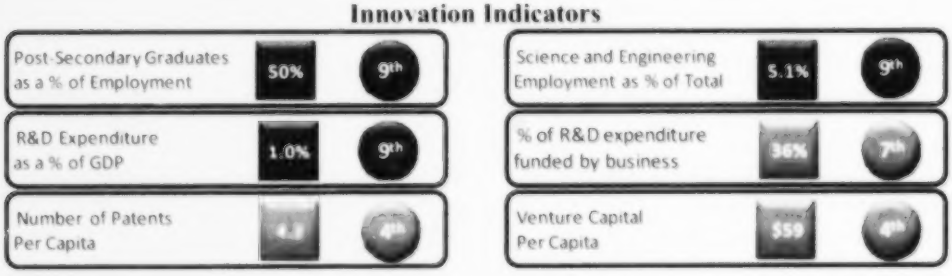
Performance Indicators for Saskatchewan's Economy

Core Indicators



Economic Performance Indicators

Innovation Indicators



Business Environment Indicators

Green Items: **Saskatchewan ranks in the top 3 provinces**
Orange Items: **Saskatchewan ranks among the 4th to 7th place provinces**
Red Items: **Saskatchewan ranks 8th or lower among the provinces**

Note: All data as of May 2009. Data and growth rates are for 2008 (or latest year available). Arrows show rates of growth; boxes indicate dollar amounts, percentage shares, etc.; circles show Saskatchewan's rank among the provinces.

Introduction

The Enterprise Saskatchewan Act requires Enterprise Saskatchewan (ES) "to establish, measure, monitor and report on goals and targets for Saskatchewan's economy." The purpose of this report is to outline a number of performance indicators to be used in monitoring Saskatchewan's competitiveness and economic progress over time and in relation to other jurisdictions.

ES is looking at providing performance indicator reports in the spring and fall of each year, with a report on performance indicators for community, workforce and quality of life planned for spring 2010.

ES has looked at examples of performance indicators from studies completed in Saskatchewan and other jurisdictions in Canada, as well as various international studies, and has identified a group of indicators that are suitable for Saskatchewan's economy.

In order for ES to provide clear and timely advice to government, it was important to choose indicators that accurately portray developments in the economy and are concentrated around the drivers of sustainable economic growth. Indicators that focus attention on activities with limited influence on Saskatchewan's growth objectives may produce stellar results on paper, but not contribute, in reality, to any meaningful progress. Indicators have also been selected where data is available and reliable, and allow comparisons over time and between jurisdictions. The number of measures chosen is also important: too few will not provide sufficient understanding, but too many may obscure the essential information.

For this first report, it has been decided to compare Saskatchewan's performance indicators with the Canadian average and the other nine provinces. In future, it may be possible to extend the comparisons to the United States (U.S.) and other countries, depending upon the availability of comparable data.

Based on the research done about indicators in other jurisdictions and their deemed suitability to Saskatchewan, this report provides a total of 25 economic and demographic indicators. Five of these indicators are considered to be "core" indicators for the provincial economy: (1) growth in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP), (2) population growth, (3) employment growth, (4) growth in personal disposable income per capita (a typical measure of "standard of living") and (5) growth in manufacturing shipments, as a measure of the province's economic diversification.

Supplementing these five "core" indicators are another 20 indicators, which provide more detail in the areas of economic performance, innovation, and business environment. The first two areas relate to Saskatchewan's relative economic and innovation performance, while the third area covers off several indicators relating to the quality of Saskatchewan's business climate.

The 25 performance indicators are summarized in the table on the following page.

Performance Indicators for Saskatchewan's Economy

Core Indicators

1. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Growth
2. Population Growth
3. Employment Growth
4. Personal Disposable Income Per Capita Growth
5. Manufacturing Shipments Growth

Economic Performance	Innovation	Business Environment
6. Real GDP Per Capita Growth	15. Post-Secondary Graduates as a Percentage of Employment	22. Government Net Debt as a Percentage of GDP
7. Total Migration Rate	16. Science and Engineering Employment as a Percentage of Total Employment	23. Private Sector Employment as a Percentage of Total Employment
8. Unemployment Rate	17. Productivity (Real GDP Per Hour Worked)	24. Marginal Effective Tax Rate on Capital
9. Average Weekly Earnings Growth	18. Research and Development (R&D) Expenditures as a Percentage of GDP	25. Investment Climate Index
10. Personal Savings Rate	19. Percentage of R&D Expenditures Funded by Business	
11. Export Growth	20. Number of Patents Per Capita	
12. Private and Public Investment Growth	21. Venture Capital Investment Per Capita	
13. Number of Businesses Per Capita		
14. Business Bankruptcy Rate		

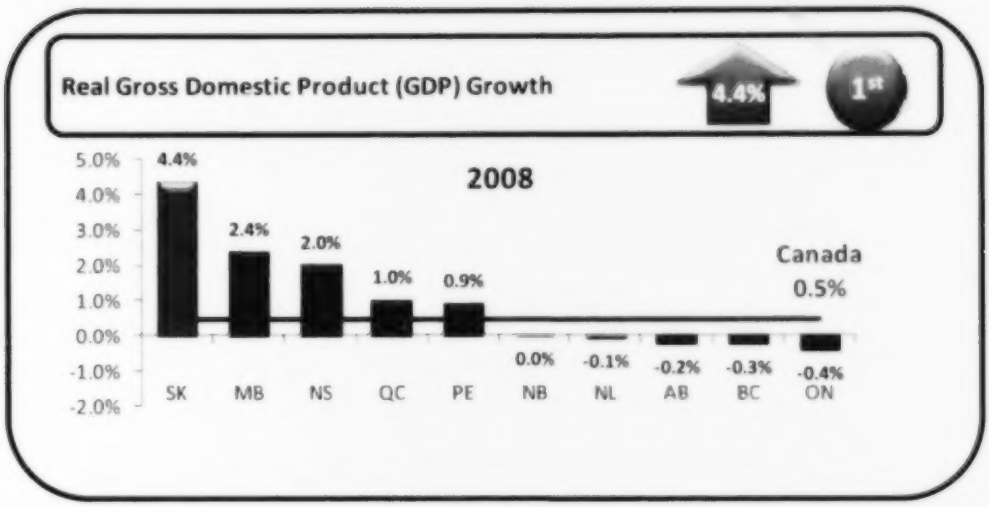
The next section of the paper examines each of the 25 indicators in turn, discussing the meaning and significance of each indicator, and presenting recent trends in each one, along with Saskatchewan's ranking among the provinces and in relation to the national average. Generally speaking, the trends compare 2008 with the year before and with 2004. Where the most recent year of data is for 2007, or 2006, the comparison is with 2003 or 2002, respectively.

Each graph is "colour-coded" according to Saskatchewan's ranking among the provinces on that particular indicator. The colour green indicates that Saskatchewan places in the top three provinces; red indicates a placement in the bottom three provinces; and orange indicates Saskatchewan ranks among the middle four provinces. This colour-coding is also used in the Executive Summary to provide an overview of all 25 indicators.

The Appendix provides the tables and data sources that underlie each of the 25 indicators, and lists the abbreviations and references that were used in the preparation of this report.

Core Indicators

1. Real GDP Growth



What the Indicator Means

- Inflation-adjusted (i.e. real) GDP is the standard indicator for comparing rates of economic growth over time and among jurisdictions. GDP measures the value-added to the economy from the productive economic activities of individuals, businesses, governments and non-residents. For most economists, the more rapid the growth in real GDP is, the more positive the indicator is of an economy's performance. For developed countries like Canada and the U.S., growth rates of 2-4 per cent are typical, while growth rates of 8-10 per cent are more common for major emerging economies such as China and India.

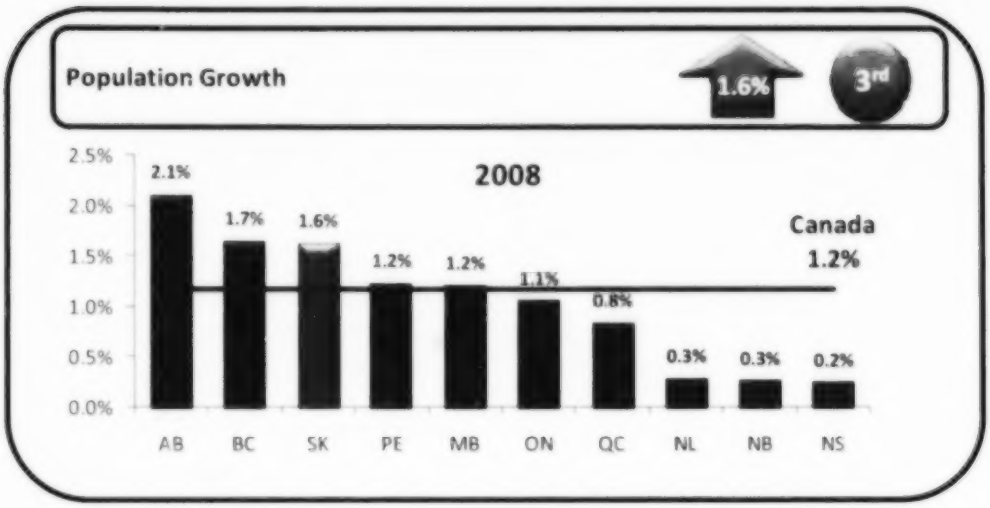
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, Saskatchewan's real GDP grew by 4.4 per cent, which was the highest growth rate among the provinces and well above the national average of 0.5 per cent. Manitoba had the second-highest growth rate last year at 2.4 per cent, while Alberta and British Columbia (B.C.) both had slight declines in real GDP (-0.2 per cent and -0.3 per cent, respectively).

- In the period 2004-08, the province's real GDP grew, on average, by 2.0 per cent annually, versus 1.8 per cent growth nationally (and fifth-highest rate among the provinces). Saskatchewan's real GDP rose by 4.6 per cent in 2003 (second-highest among the provinces), 5.1 per cent in 2004 (second) and 3.3 per cent in 2005 (third), declined by 0.3 per cent in 2006 (last among the provinces), and increased by 2.5 per cent in 2007 (sixth-highest among the provinces).

- Saskatchewan is forecast to fare the best among the provinces in 2009, during the current global economic downturn, with an average growth forecast of -0.3 per cent that compares favourably to an expected national average of -2.4 per cent.

2. Population Growth



What the Indicator Means

- Some jurisdictions do not benchmark population growth (usually larger jurisdictions, where population growth is fairly routine) but in Saskatchewan's case, population is considered to be an important indicator. In the past, Saskatchewan has experienced frequent periods of population decline, and it is felt that an expanding population base is crucial to the ongoing growth of the provincial economy.

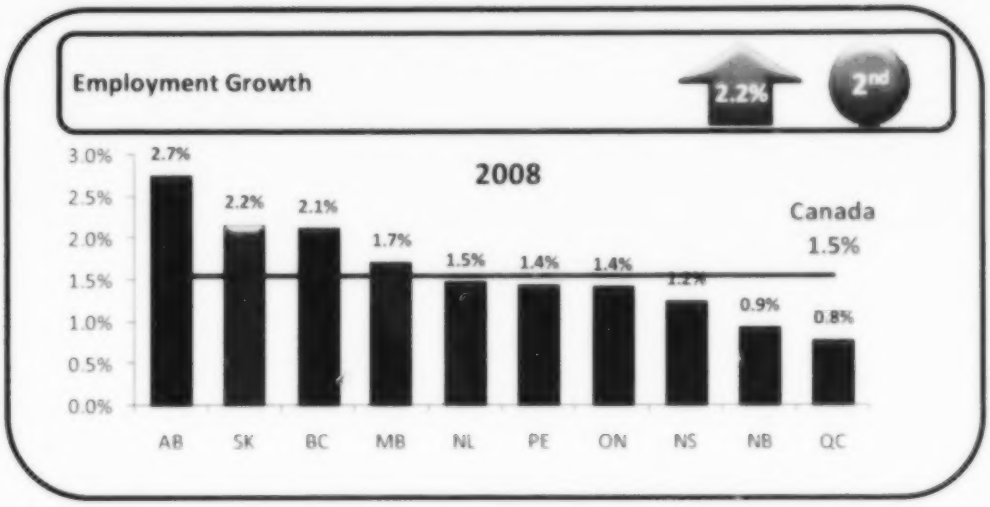
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, Saskatchewan's population grew by 1.6 per cent, compared to 2007 (measured at July 1 of each year). This was the third-highest rate of population growth among the provinces and exceeded the national average of 1.2 per cent. The last time that Saskatchewan saw its annual population growth rate this high was nearly 50 years ago (1.8 per cent in 1959).

- Saskatchewan's population peaked at 1,032,799 in 1987, then declined to 1,002,713 in 1991, then grew to 1,018,945 in 1996, before declining to 992,122 in 2006. In both 2007 and 2008, the province's population increased significantly, reaching 1,015,985 as of July 1, 2008 (and 1,030,129 as of July 1, 2009, the highest level since 1987).

- Over the period July 1, 2004 to July 1, 2008, the population of Saskatchewan grew by 0.4 per cent a year, on average, compared with 0.8 per cent growth nationally. In this period, Saskatchewan had the sixth-highest population growth rate among the provinces. Alberta had the fastest growth rate in population at 2.0 per cent a year, followed by B.C. at 1.1 per cent and Ontario at 0.9 per cent. Newfoundland and Labrador's population declined by 0.4 per cent per year over this period.

3. Employment Growth



What the Indicator Means

- Employment growth, like GDP growth, is an indication of the overall economic performance of a jurisdiction, particularly the economy's ability to create and maintain jobs and to attract new workers. Higher employment growth tends to translate into more opportunities for youth, new graduates, migrants and minorities. The employment rate (i.e. employment as a percentage of the working-age population) provides a good measure of the rate of labour utilization, particularly for youth and First Nations and Métis people.

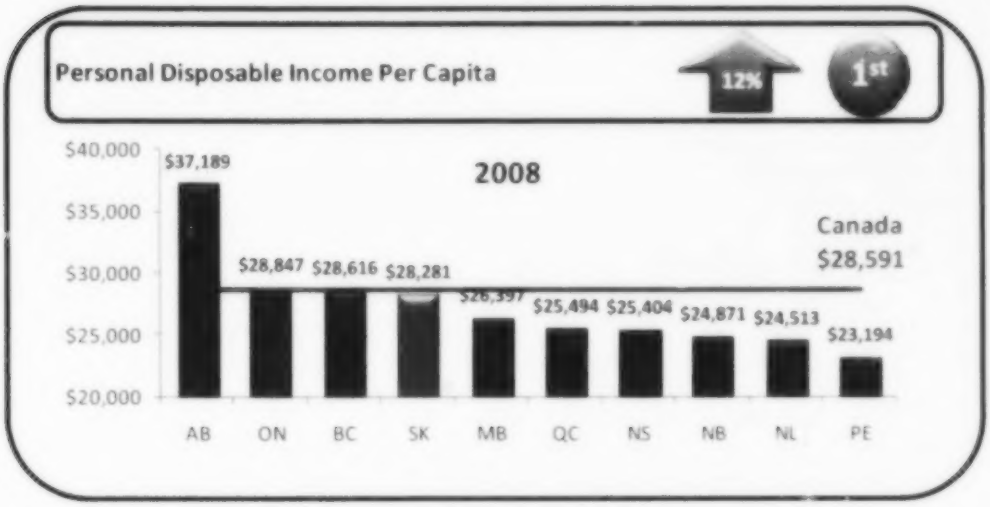
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, employment in Saskatchewan stood at 512,700, an increase of 10,900, or 2.2 per cent, over 2007. This percentage increase was the second-highest in Canada last year and exceeded the national average (+1.5 per cent). Employment for the province's youth (ages 15-24) increased by 2.0 per cent (+1,800) to 93,100 in 2008, while employment among Métis and First Nations people living off-reserve increased by 1.2 per cent (+400) to 34,200.

- Between 2004 and 2008, total employment in the province grew by 33,000, an average increase of 1.3 per cent per year. This was the third-highest growth rate in Canada (behind Alberta and B.C. at 2.8 per cent and 2.3 per cent, respectively) and just below the national average (+1.4 per cent).

- Saskatchewan's employment rate in 2008 was 66.8 per cent, second-highest in Canada and above the national average (63.6 per cent). The employment rates were 59.6 per cent for Saskatchewan youth and 55.9 per cent for Métis and First Nations people living off-reserve (First Nations – 48.2 per cent, Métis – 62.2 per cent). By comparison, the employment rate for all non-Aboriginal persons in the province averaged 67.5 per cent last year.

4. Personal Disposable Income Per Capita Growth



What the Indicator Means

- Personal disposable income is the sum of all personal income in a jurisdiction from employment, investment and transfers, net of personal direct taxes (i.e. income taxes, contributions to social insurance plans such as Canada Pension Plan and Employment Insurance, and other transfers to government such as medical insurance premiums).

- On a per capita basis, personal disposable income provides a clear indication of an individual's standard of living and the funds a person has available for spending on goods and services, for savings and investments, and for transfers to others. Personal disposable income per capita reflects not only economic conditions in a jurisdiction but also the level of direct taxation on individuals.

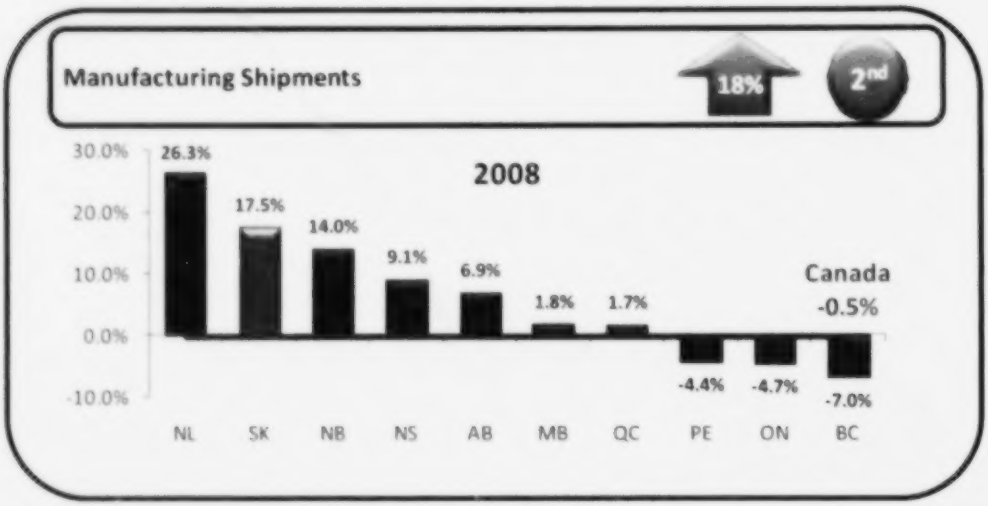
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- Saskatchewan's personal disposable income per capita stood at $28,281 in 2008 (unadjusted for inflation), the fourth-highest among the provinces. On a per capita basis, the province's personal disposable income amounted to 99 per cent of the national average in 2008 ($28,591), compared to 93 per cent in 2007 and 87 per cent in 1998.

- The boom in commodity prices contributed to a strong increase in personal incomes in Saskatchewan in 2008. Saskatchewan had the fastest growth rate among the provinces in personal disposable income per capita in 2008 at 11.6 per cent. B.C. was second with 6.8 per cent growth, while the national average was 4.9 per cent.

- Over the period 2004 to 2008, the average annual growth rate in Saskatchewan's personal disposable income per capita was 5.1 per cent, second-highest in Canada and above the national average of 3.8 per cent. Alberta was first at 5.9 per cent.

5. Manufacturing Shipments Growth



What the Indicator Means

- Manufacturing shipments are a key measure of a jurisdiction's success in expanding the value-added component of its economy. In other words, manufacturing shipments show how successfully a jurisdiction is diversifying its economy, through, for example, extracting added value from its resources and developing and commercializing new products.

- The rate of growth in manufacturing shipments has been selected as a more appropriate indicator of economic success for Saskatchewan than shipments per capita, since most other provinces are starting from a larger manufacturing base than Saskatchewan.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, the value of Saskatchewan's manufacturing shipments increased by 17.5 per cent to a record $12.3B. Saskatchewan had the second-highest percentage increase in shipments in Canada. Newfoundland and Labrador was first with a gain of 26.3 per cent, while nationally, shipments were down by 0.5 per cent from 2007.

- Over the period 2004 to 2008, Saskatchewan also had the second-fastest growth rate in manufacturing shipments, increasing on average by 6.0 per cent annually, compared with 21.4 per cent for Newfoundland and Labrador. Nationally, manufacturing shipments grew, on average, by 0.7 per cent per year. Other average annual rates of change in this period included 5.5 per cent for Alberta, 4.3 per cent for Manitoba, -0.8 per cent for B.C., and -1.7 per cent for Ontario.

Economic Performance Indicators

6. Real GDP Per Capita Growth

What the Indicator Means

- Real GDP per capita is a good measure of standard of living because it captures the output attributable to each person within a jurisdiction. Although real GDP per capita is not a measure of "quality of life," economists generally regard higher output per capita as meaning that more resources are available for consumption within the jurisdiction as well as for governments to provide programs and services to their residents.

- Growth in real GDP per capita shows whether living standards are rising for residents of a jurisdiction over time. Focusing on per capita growth eliminates population change as a factor in the improvement of living standards.

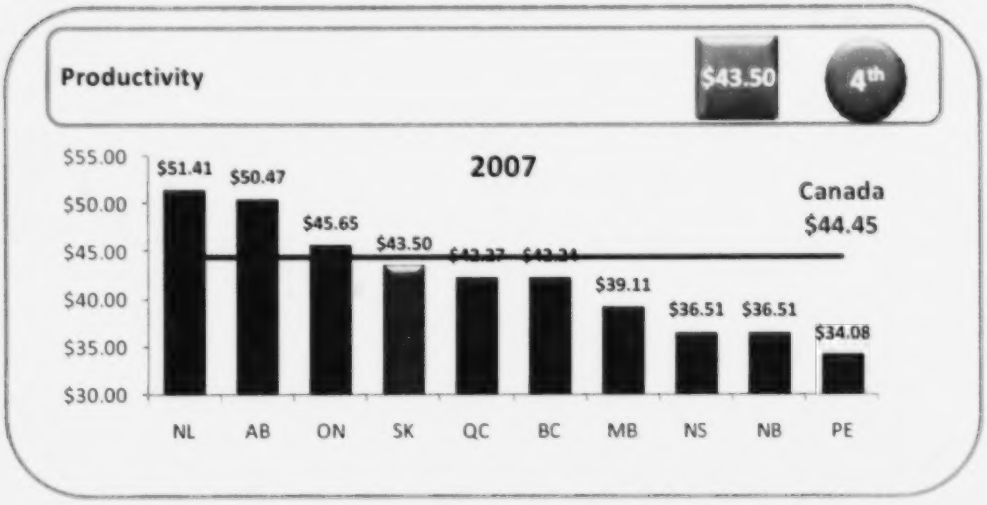
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- On a per person basis, Saskatchewan's real GDP stood at $40,924 in 2008, an increase of 2.7 per cent from the year before ($39,846). Compared to other provinces, Saskatchewan had the third-highest real GDP per capita in 2008, behind Alberta ($52,168) and Ontario ($41,305). Saskatchewan's real GDP per capita was above the national average ($39,914) last year.

- In 2008, Saskatchewan had the fastest growth rate in real GDP per capita (+2.7 per cent), compared with a decline in the national average (-0.7 per cent). Manitoba had the third-fastest growth rate in real GDP per capita in 2008 (+1.2 per cent), while Alberta and B.C. both had decreases (-2.3 per cent and -1.9 per cent, respectively).

- Over the period 2004-08, Saskatchewan had the third-fastest growth rate in real GDP per capita (+1.6 per cent), behind Newfoundland and Labrador (+3.1 per cent) and Manitoba (+1.8 per cent), above the national average (+1.0 per cent) and ahead of Alberta (+0.7 per cent) and B.C. (+1.2 per cent).

7. Productivity (GDP Per Hour Worked)



What the Indicator Means

- In general, how much a jurisdiction produces and consumes will be determined by its productivity level, as well as by its productivity growth. Real GDP per hour worked measures how efficiently a jurisdiction uses it labour resources, through investments in capital and technology, to generate the level of output in the economy.

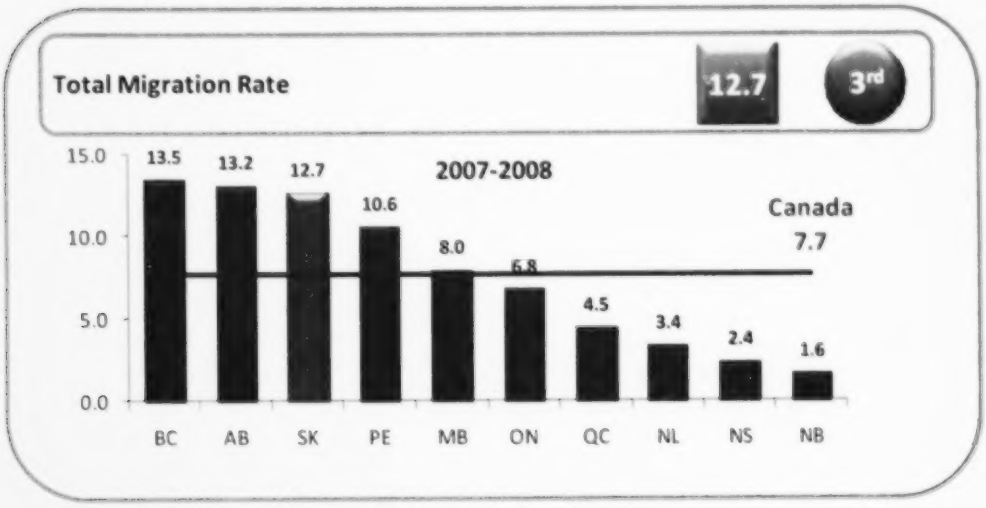
- High productivity levels generate wealth in the economy, allowing businesses to compete effectively in the marketplace and to pay higher wages and salaries to their employees. Strong productivity growth helps jurisdictions to reach these higher productivity levels. This has the added benefit of allowing for economic growth without inflationary pressures, which provides consumers with more purchasing power.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2007 (latest year available), Saskatchewan's labour productivity, or real GDP per hour worked, stood at $43.50, the fourth-highest level among the provinces and below the national average of $44.45. Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest productivity level at $51.41. Saskatchewan's productivity level was nearly 98 per cent of the national average in 2007, up from 97.5 per cent in 2003.

- In 2007, Saskatchewan's productivity grew by 0.6 per cent (seventh-highest among the provinces), compared with 0.7 per cent growth nationally. Over the period 2003-07, Saskatchewan saw an average annual increase of 1.0 per cent in its productivity level (fifth-highest among the provinces), versus an increase nationally of 0.9 per cent in the same period.

8. Total Migration Rate



What the Indicator Means

- Migration can be viewed as a good indicator of a jurisdiction's attractiveness as a place to work and invest. Positive in-migration contributes to population growth and in turn provides a powerful source of economic growth. In particular, in-migration tends to be associated with an expanding pool of young, highly skilled and educated workers. Both net international and inter-provincial migration play this role and, as a result, their combined rates are used as an indicator.

- The total migration rate is defined as the net number of international and inter-provincial migrants (i.e. in-migrants minus out-migrants) in a year (July 1 to June 30) per 1,000 population of the province (population is measured as of July 1). Canada's migration rate refers to international migrants only. A negative migration rate indicates a net outflow of people from the jurisdiction.

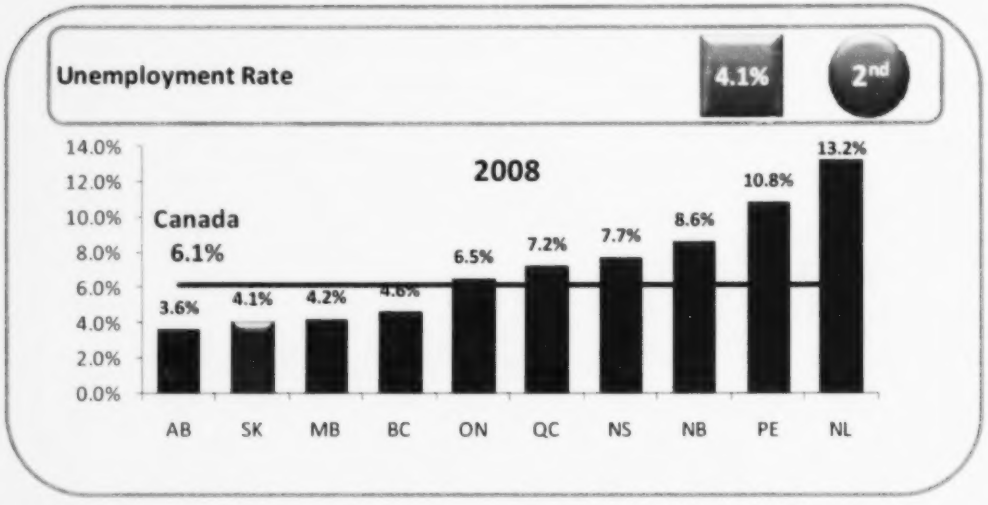
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In the period 2007/08, Saskatchewan had a net gain of 12.7 people per 1,000 population. This was the third-highest rate among the provinces (behind B.C. and Alberta at 13.5 and 13.2 people per 1,000 population respectively). The Canadian average was 7.7 people per 1,000 population. No province had a net loss of people in 2007/08 when both international and inter-provincial migrants are taken into account.

- For Saskatchewan, 2007/08 was only the second year of net positive in-migration since 1990/91, with 2006/07 being the other year (+4.3 people per 1,000 population). Population losses were reported in 2005/06 (-5.3 people per 1,000 population), 2004/05 (-7.6) and 2003/04 (-2.7).

- The turnaround for Saskatchewan in 2006/07 and 2007/08 is attributable to positive inter-provincial in-migration in this period, and to a significant boost in international in-migration.

9. Unemployment Rate



What the Indicator Means

- The unemployment rate is a traditional indicator of how successful a jurisdiction is in providing employment for residents who wish to work. The unemployment rate is defined as that percentage of the labour force in a jurisdiction which is unemployed. The labour force is defined as those employed and those looking for work. Economists generally regard the unemployment rate as reflecting not only the economic conditions within the jurisdiction but also the flexibility of its labour market.

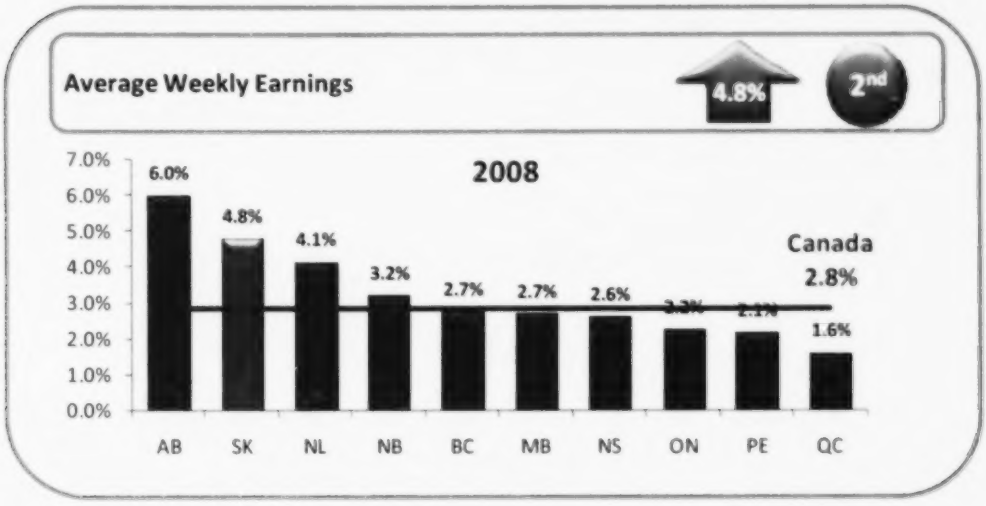
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- Saskatchewan's unemployment rate averaged 4.1 per cent in 2008, down from 4.2 per cent in 2007. Saskatchewan had the second-lowest unemployment rate in Canada in 2008 (behind Alberta at 3.6 per cent). The province's unemployment rate declined from 5.3 per cent in 2004 (7.2 per cent nationally) to 4.1 per cent in 2008 (6.1 per cent nationally). In this period Saskatchewan had the second- or third-lowest unemployment rate in Canada each year.

- The unemployment rate for Saskatchewan youth (ages 15-24) was 7.6 per cent in 2008, down from 7.7 per cent the year before. This was the second-lowest rate in Canada and below the national average of 11.6 per cent. By comparison, the unemployment rate for Saskatchewan residents aged 25 and over was 3.3 per cent in 2008.

- The unemployment rate for Métis and First Nations people living off-reserve went up from 12.4 per cent in 2007 to 13.1 per cent last year (First Nations – 18.6 per cent, Métis – 9.3 per cent). This compared with an average unemployment rate for the non-Aboriginal population in 2008 of 3.5 per cent.

10. Average Weekly Earnings Growth



What the Indicator Means

- Average weekly earnings are a good indicator of an individual worker's prosperity ("income" rather than "wealth"). The indicator is ranked from a worker's perspective, such that higher weekly earnings receive a better ranking. Average weekly earnings are reported by Statistics Canada on an annual basis, and can be compared against the annual inflation rate, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This allows a comparison of how well wages are keeping up with living expenses.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

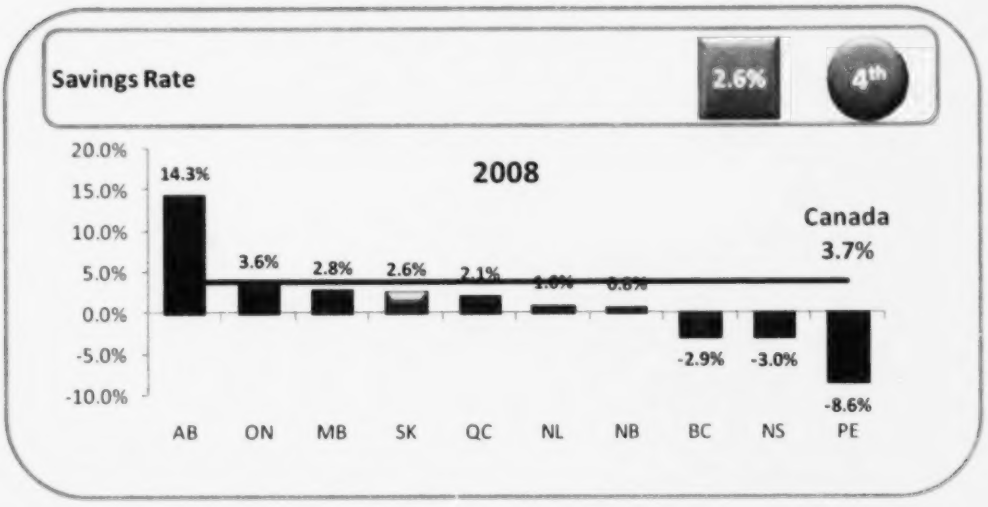
- In 2008, weekly earnings (including overtime) for all Saskatchewan industries averaged $785.71, an increase of $35.87, or 4.8 per cent, compared to 2007. This was the second-highest percentage increase among the provinces and exceeded the national average of 2.8 per cent.

- The Saskatchewan increase of 4.8 per cent compared with a 3.3 per cent increase in Saskatchewan's CPI in 2008, while the increase of 2.8 per cent in Canada's average weekly earnings compared with an increase of 2.3 per cent in Canada's CPI.

- Saskatchewan's average weekly earnings outstripped inflation over the period 2004 to 2008, with average weekly earnings rising by 3.7 per cent per year, compared with an average annual increase of 2.1 per cent in the province's CPI in this period. Saskatchewan had the second-highest percentage increase in weekly earnings over the 2004-08 period, behind Alberta (4.5 per cent) and above the national average (2.7 per cent).

- In 2008, Saskatchewan had the fourth-highest level of average weekly earnings among the provinces ($785.71). Given the rapid growth in earnings in recent years, Saskatchewan industries have almost closed the gap with third-place B.C. ($790.97).

11. Personal Savings Rate



What the Indicator Means

- The savings rate is defined as personal savings as a percentage of personal disposable income (no adjustment is made for inflation). Personal saving is the flip side of personal, or consumer, spending on goods and services.

- A positive savings rate indicates that consumer spending is less than income (or earnings), while a negative savings rate indicates the opposite. The latter suggests that consumers are either incurring additional debt or drawing down assets. Recent patterns indicate that consumers in Canada have been bearing heavier debt loads.

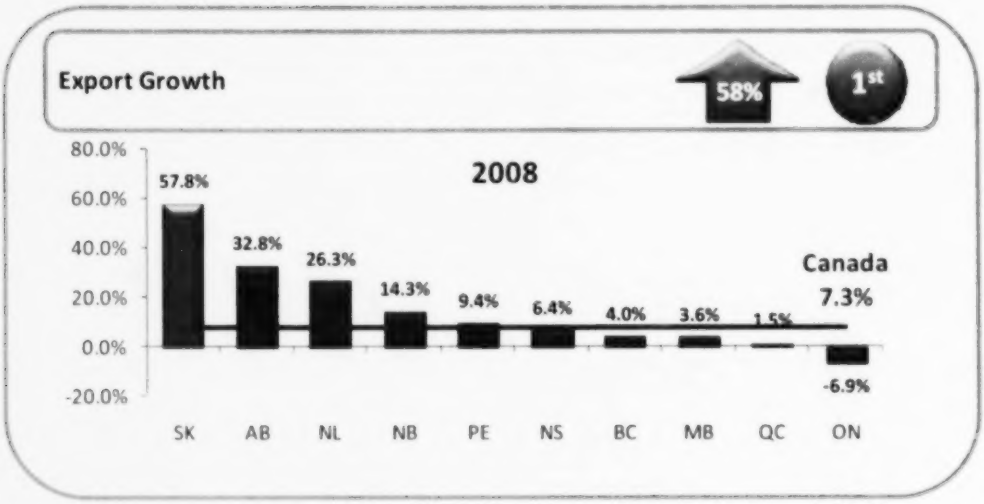
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- The personal savings rate in Saskatchewan was positive in 2008 (+2.6 per cent), for the first time since 2004 (+1.9 per cent) and in contrast to 2007 (-2.0 per cent). Spending exceeded income in seven of the last 10 years, and some economists were of the view that a negative savings rate might now be a permanent feature of the provincial economy. However, strong growth in employment earnings and lower tax rates helped push the province's savings rate into positive territory last year.

- In 2008, Saskatchewan was one of seven provinces with a positive savings rate and ranked fourth out of the 10 provinces. Canada's savings rate stood at 3.7 per cent in 2008, up from 2.7 per cent in 2007 and reversing a downward trend over the past decade.

- Most provinces have seen their savings rates decline over the past 10 years, with Alberta being the main exception. Alberta's savings rate has increased from 3.1 per cent in 1999 to 14.3 per cent in 2008.

12. Export Growth



What the Indicator Means

- A large export sector is an indication that a jurisdiction has external markets available to it, as opposed to relying upon its domestic market alone. Access to external markets normally increases the potential for greater productivity and income levels within the jurisdiction, and leads to enhanced economic growth within the jurisdiction.

- Growth in exports helps to demonstrate whether this potential for productivity and income growth is being realized. Moreover, export growth is likely a better indicator when comparing the Canadian provinces, because all 10 provinces have large and vibrant export sectors.

- While "exports" to other provinces are an important component of provincial economies, this report focuses just on international exports.

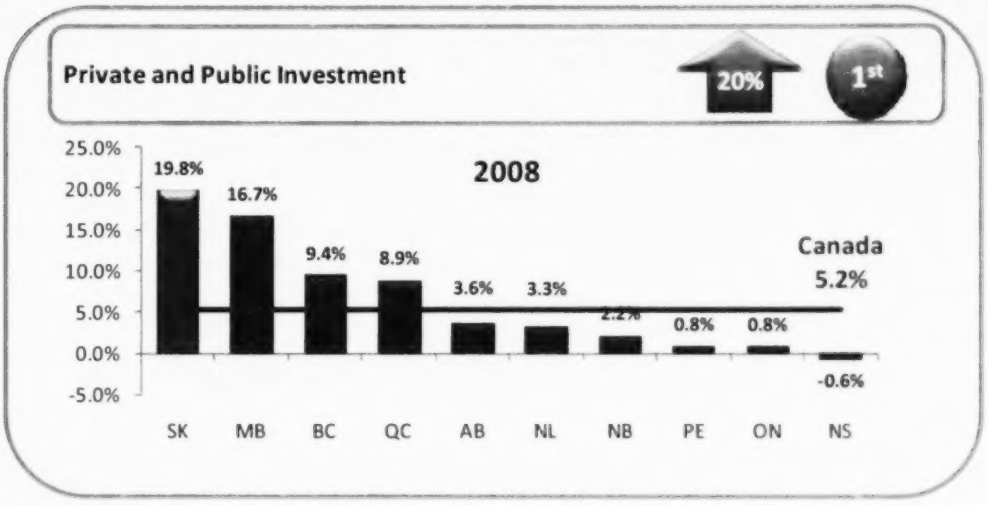
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, Saskatchewan had by far the highest growth rate in Canada in international exports of goods. The province's growth rate of 57.8 per cent last year was nearly double that of second-place Alberta (32.8 per cent) and was nearly eight times the national average (7.3 per cent).

- The dramatic rise in prices for agricultural commodities, potash, uranium, oil and other resource-based products contributed in a major way to the province's impressive export gains in 2008 (a record $31.2B). With the recent decline in commodity prices and the global recession, this exceptional growth is not expected to be sustained in the near term, however.

- Over the period 2004 to 2008, Saskatchewan's international exports grew, on average, by 18.3 per cent per year, the highest growth rate among the provinces (ahead of Newfoundland and Labrador at 15.4 per cent) and above the national average of 3.3 per cent.

13. Private and Public Investment Growth



What the Indicator Means

- Economists recognize that new capital investment is essential to the growth of an economy, particularly over the longer term. Both private investment and public investment play important roles in economic growth. Capital investment by the private sector connects the economy's current productive capacity (to provide goods and services) with anticipated market demands for goods and services. Capital investment by the public sector provides the infrastructure needed to support increases in business activity by the private sector.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

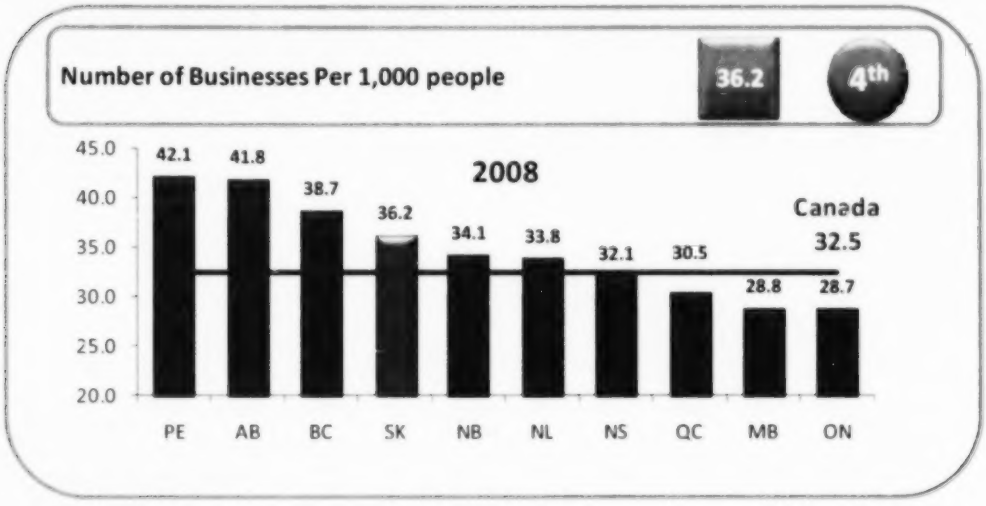
- In 2008, new capital investment by Saskatchewan's private and public sectors amounted to a record level of $14.0B, an increase of 19.8 per cent over 2007. This was the highest percentage increase among the provinces and was nearly four times the national average of 5.2 per cent.

- The private sector accounted for $11.4B or 81 per cent of the total investment in 2008, with the public sector accounting for the other $2.7B, or 19 per cent. (The private and public shares of the total in 2008 were typical of most years.)

- Investment by Saskatchewan's private sector grew by 14.5 per cent in 2008, the second-highest growth rate among the provinces (just behind Manitoba at 15.2 per cent) and well above the national average of 1.6 per cent.

- Over the period 2004 to 2008, total private and public investment in Saskatchewan grew on average by 13.4 per cent per year, the highest growth rate among the provinces (ahead of Alberta at 11.4 per cent) and above the national rate of 6.9 per cent a year. Much of the province's investment growth over this period was driven by an expanding resource sector (oil and gas, potash and uranium).

14. Number of Businesses Per Capita



What the Indicator Means

- New business start-ups provide an indication of economic activity and economic performance; they also provide an indication of the overall business climate in a jurisdiction, and of attitudes towards entrepreneurship. Strong entrepreneurial activity is closely associated with a dynamic and growing economy.

- Measures of new business start-ups tend to be imperfect. The number of new business incorporations, for instance, has several drawbacks as an indicator because it does not include new partnerships and sole proprietorships, nor does it indicate whether new corporations are active businesses, or merely shell corporations. Inter-provincial comparisons of the data may also encounter definitional differences among the jurisdictions.

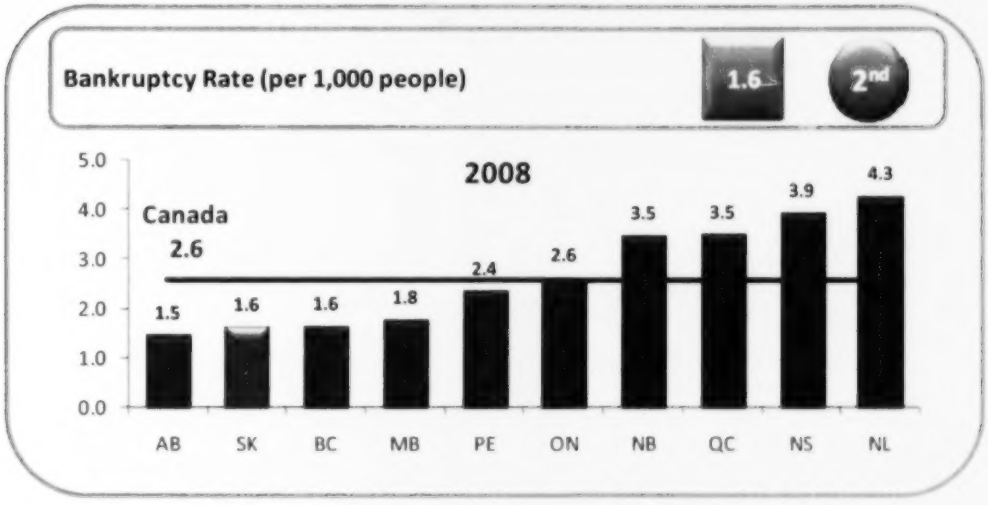
- Instead, it was decided to use as an indicator the number of businesses per capita, with the rate shown as number of businesses per 1,000 population. The source of these figures is Statistics Canada's Business Register.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- As of December 31, 2008, there were 36,788 businesses in Saskatchewan with at least one employee. This translated into 36.2 businesses in the province per 1,000 population, which compared with a rate nationally of 32.5 businesses per 1,000 people. Saskatchewan ranked fourth among the provinces, with Prince Edward Island (42.1), Alberta (41.8) and B.C. (38.7) each having a higher number of businesses per 1,000 population, as of December 31, 2008.

- Between 2004 and 2008, Saskatchewan's business rate changed from 39.3 businesses per 1,000 population at the end of 2004 to 36.2 businesses per 1,000 population.

15. Business Bankruptcy Rate



What the Indicator Means

- Business bankruptcies provide an indication of the stresses to which businesses are subject. Bankruptcies reflect not only economic conditions and market demand, but also entrepreneurial and management capabilities.

- The ability of businesses to remain viable in the face of changing market conditions means greater economic security not only for the enterprises themselves but also for their employees.

- The business bankruptcy rate is calculated as the number of bankruptcies per capita, with the rate expressed as the number of bankruptcies per 1,000 population.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

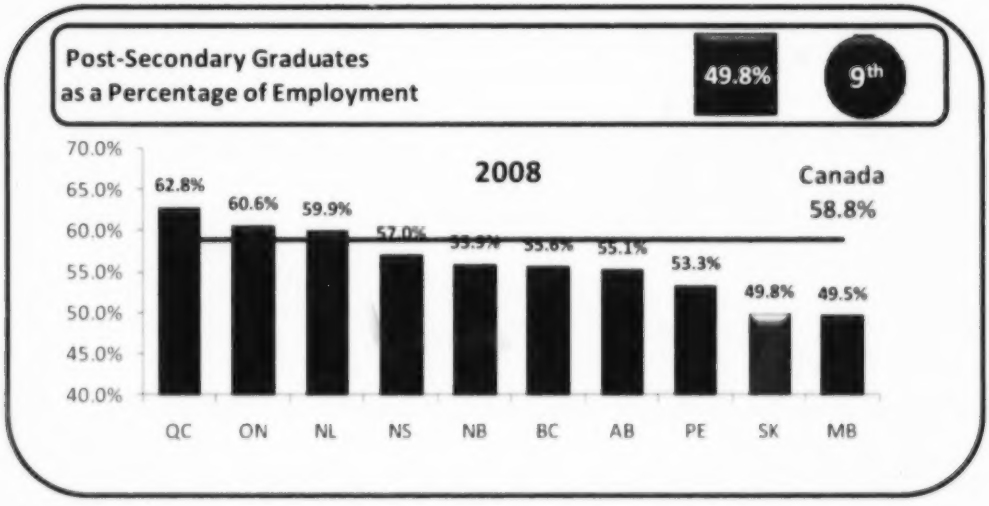
- Saskatchewan reported 1,667 business bankruptcies in 2008, or 66 more than in 2007 (1,601), an increase of 4.1%. Among the provinces, Saskatchewan had the lowest number of bankruptcies in both 2007 and 2008, with the exception of Prince Edward Island.

- In 2008, Saskatchewan had the second-lowest business bankruptcy rate among the provinces, tied with B.C. at 1.6 bankruptcies per 1,000 population. Alberta had the lowest rate at 1.5, while the national average was 2.6. Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest rate at 4.3 bankruptcies per 1,000 population in 2008. Ontario was the same as the national average (2.6), and Manitoba's rate was 1.8, as the four western provinces had the lowest rates in Canada.

- Saskatchewan's business bankruptcy rate of 1.6 in 2008 compared with a rate of 3.8 in 2004.

Innovation Indicators

16. Post-Secondary Graduates as a Percentage of Employment



What the Indicator Means

- In knowledge-based economies, the educational attainment of the employed workforce is a good indicator of "human capital". Individuals with higher levels of education have stronger earning capacity, and a well-educated workforce means that more skilled labour is available to drive innovation and productivity growth in the economy.

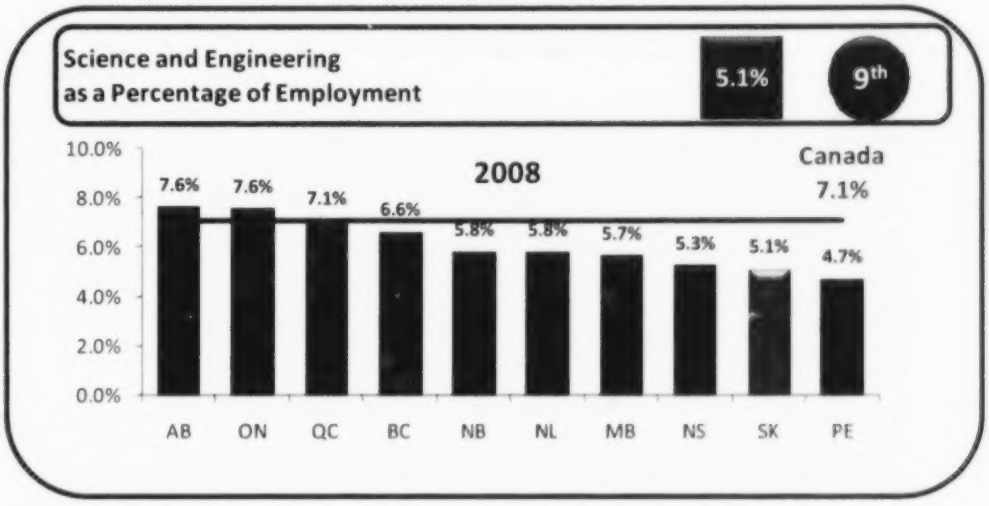
- An indicator based on all post-secondary graduates encompasses not only university graduates (who are generally recognized as key to knowledge-based economies) but also graduates with trade certification. Skilled trades account for a significant portion of the labour shortages experienced in Saskatchewan, and increasing the number of post-secondary graduates in all areas is vital to Saskatchewan's continued prosperity.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, there were 255,600 post-secondary graduates working in Saskatchewan's economy, representing 49.8 per cent of the province's total employment (512,700). This percentage was below the national average of 58.8 per cent. Saskatchewan ranked ninth among the provinces. Quebec had the highest share of post-secondary graduates in its employed workforce (62.8 per cent), followed by Ontario and three of the four Atlantic Provinces.

- The percentage of post-secondary graduates in Saskatchewan's employed workforce has remained fairly stable in recent years, hovering slightly below the 50 per cent mark. In 2004 the percentage was 49.1 per cent, which was the ninth-highest share in Canada and below the national average of 55.3 per cent.

17. Science and Engineering Employment as a Percentage of Total Employment



What the Indicator Means

- The number of scientists and engineers employed in a jurisdiction, relative to its total employment, is commonly used as an indication of the extent to which the jurisdiction is focused on innovation and advanced technologies. For Saskatchewan, full utilization of its resources – renewable and non-renewable – requires technological solutions. Productivity improvements driven by technological innovation depend upon the availability of technically-trained workers.

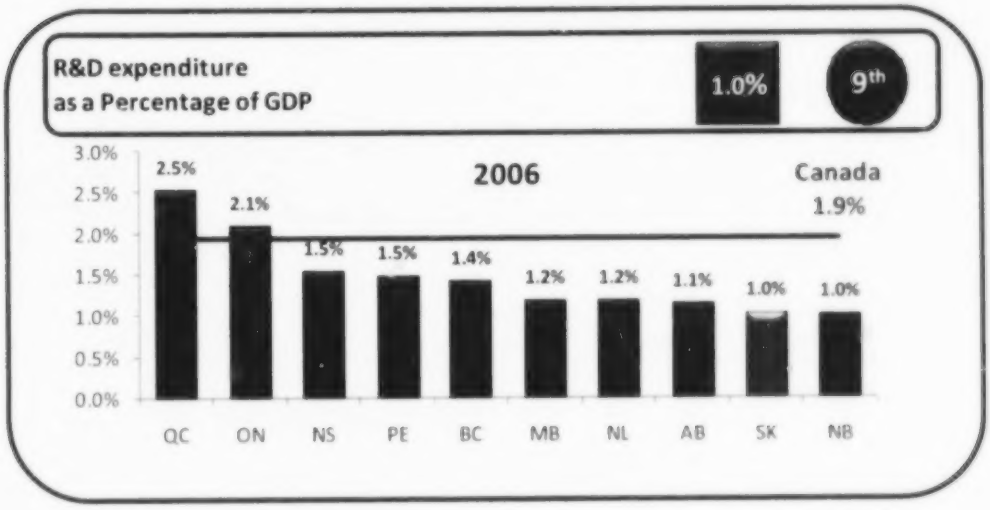
- A growing percentage of science and engineering graduates employed in the workforce indicates both the attraction and the retention of these skilled workers, and increases the innovative capacity of Saskatchewan's economy.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, there were 26,300 scientists and engineers employed in Saskatchewan's economy, representing 5.1 per cent of the province's total employment. This percentage ranked ninth among the provinces and fell below the Canadian average of 7.1 per cent. Alberta and Ontario were tied for the highest percentage share at 7.6 per cent.

- Most provinces, including Saskatchewan, have seen steady increases in the percentage of their employed workforce that is made up of scientists and engineers. In Saskatchewan the percentage has grown from 4.0 per cent in 2004 to 5.1 per cent last year, one of the stronger advances among the provinces. The national average increased from 6.6 per cent in 2004 to 7.1 per cent in 2008.

18. Research and Development (R&D) Expenditures as a Percentage of GDP



What the Indicator Means

- Gross expenditures on R&D (GERD), or R&D intensity, is one of the most commonly used indicators for innovation and the creation of new wealth. Governments and organizations like the Organization for Economic and Co-operative Development (OECD) use this indicator to monitor the success of programs aimed at stimulating science and technology. Greater expenditures on R&D should lead to scientific breakthroughs and accelerate the development of new products and services.

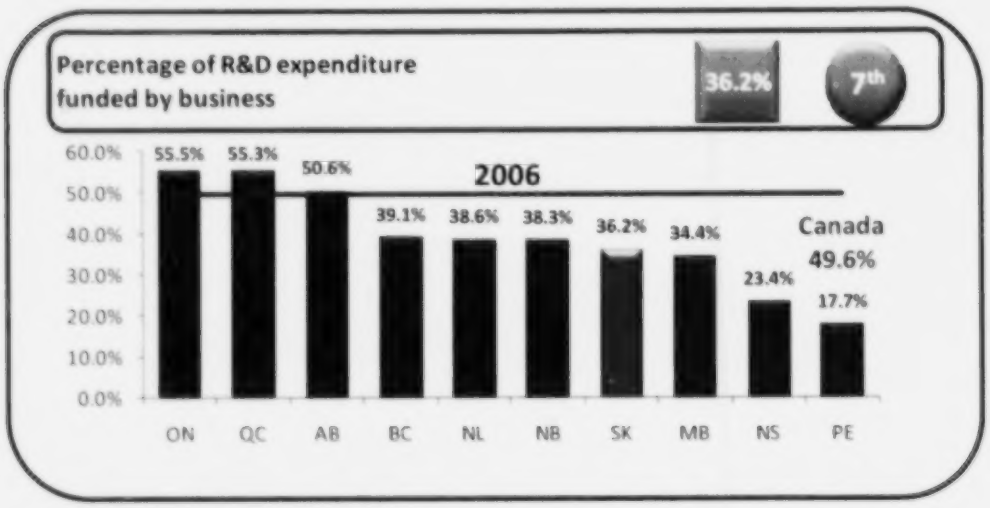
- GERD measures the combined R&D spending within a jurisdiction by business enterprises, governments, higher educational institutions and not-for-profit organizations.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2006 (latest year available), Saskatchewan ranked ninth among the provinces (tied with New Brunswick) in terms of R&D spending as a percentage of GDP at 1.0 per cent. The national average was 1.9 per cent. Quebec was first at 2.5 per cent, followed by Ontario at 2.1 per cent. R&D spending represented 1.1 per cent of GDP in Alberta, 1.2 per cent in Manitoba, and 1.4 per cent in B.C.

- There was little change in Saskatchewan's performance between 2002 and 2006, with R&D spending accounting for 1.2 per cent of GDP in 2002, 1.0 per cent in 2003 and 2004, and 1.1 per cent in 2005. There was also little change in the national average, which stood at 2.0 per cent in each year from 2002 to 2005.

19. Percentage of R&D Expenditures Funded by Business



What the Indicator Means

- Business-funded R&D, as a percentage of total R&D spending, is a measure of how innovative is the business sector within a jurisdiction. The indicator is a reflection of the extent to which businesses seek new ideas in order to improve the goods and services they produce. Research studies suggest that innovative activities are one of the most important determinants of business success.

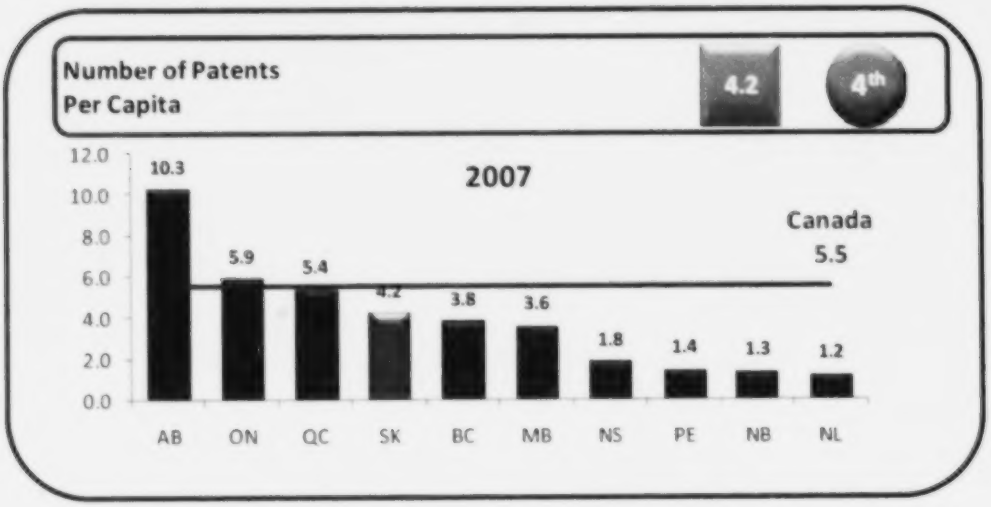
- Innovative economies tend to see a high level of R&D spending by their business communities. Business expenditures on R&D, which are driven by the profit motive, generally have a more direct, or immediate, impact on economic development than basic research conducted by governments or universities.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2006 the business sector accounted for 36.2 per cent of total R&D spending in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan ranked seventh among the provinces on this indicator, and was well below the national average of 49.6 per cent. Ontario, Quebec and Alberta had the largest percentage shares at 55.5 per cent, 55.3 per cent and 50.6 per cent, respectively.

- The indicator has, however, been increasing in Saskatchewan in recent years, moving up from 26.9 per cent in 2002 to 36.2 per cent in 2006. In fact, Saskatchewan had the fourth-fastest growth rate among the provinces in business spending on R&D in 2006 (+7.2 per cent) and the fifth-fastest rate in the period 2002 to 2006 (+5.0 per cent, on average, annually).

20. Number of Patents Per Capita



What the Indicator Means

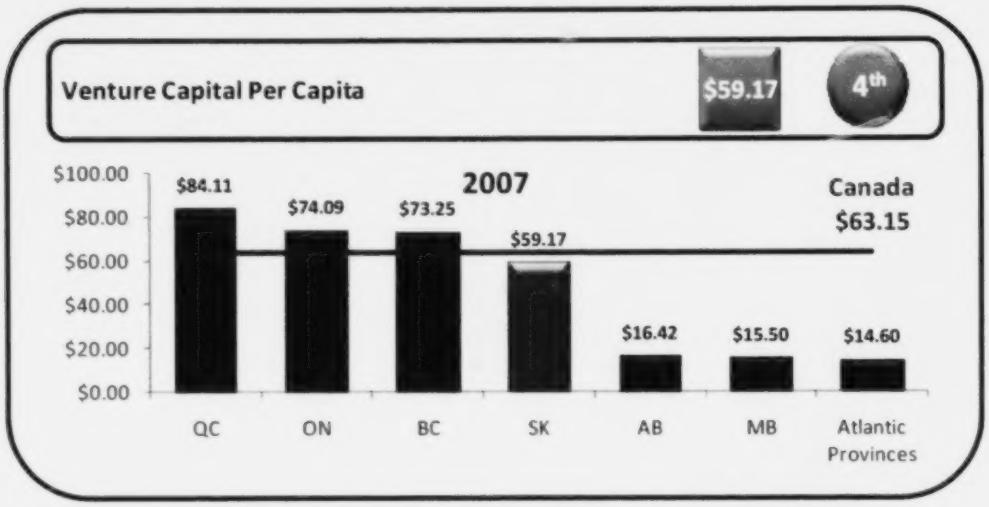
- Patents offer inventors monopoly rights to commercialize their inventions for a specified period. They also facilitate technological exchange since advances contained in patents are available for anyone to read. The number of patents relative to a jurisdiction's population is a commonly used proxy measure of the climate for R&D, innovation, and commercialization activities.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2007 (latest year available), Saskatchewan produced 4.2 patents per 100,000 population, and ranked fourth among the provinces. Saskatchewan's performance was below the Canadian average (5.5) and significantly behind the top mark set by Alberta (10.3), but was ahead of B.C. (3.8) and Manitoba (3.6). Atlantic Canada trailed the rest of the provinces by a wide margin.

- By comparison, Saskatchewan's rate of patenting in 2003 was 2.5 patents per 100,000 population, which compared with a national average of 4.1. Saskatchewan's patenting grew at an average annual rate of 10.9 per cent between 2003 and 2007, second to Prince Edward Island (14.7 per cent) and ahead of the national average (6.2 per cent).

21. Venture Capital Investment Per Capita



What the Indicator Means

- Venture capital is a private equity investment typically provided to early-stage, high-potential growth companies in the interest of generating a return. The pool of venture capital available is an indicator of both investor confidence in the province and the quality of projects under development. Expressing venture capital investment on a per capita basis facilitates comparison between jurisdictions.

- It should be noted that estimating exact dollar amounts of venture capital is an imprecise science, and there may be underestimates of the data for some provinces, such as Alberta. The estimates for the venture capital indicator should therefore be used with some caution.

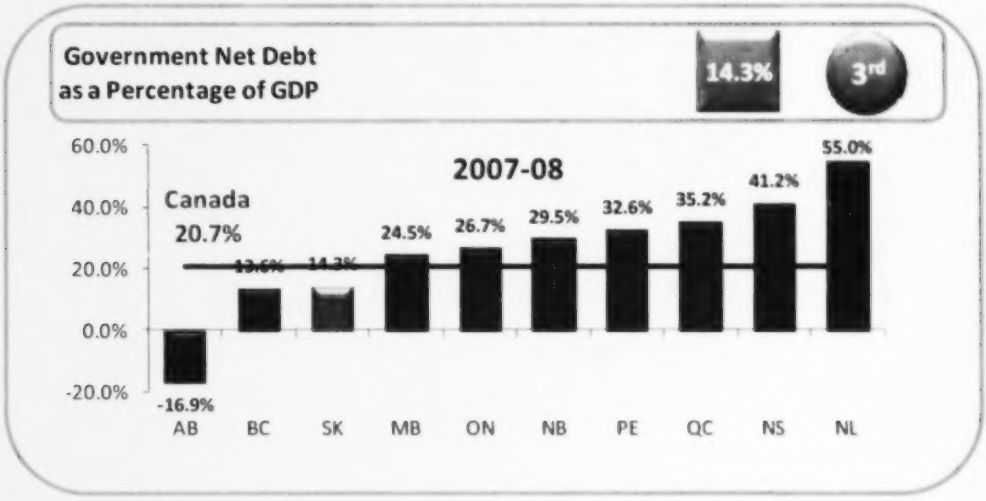
How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- Saskatchewan ($59.17 per capita) was the fourth most active province for venture capital investment in 2007. Québec ($84.11), Ontario ($74.09), and B.C. ($73.25) attracted the most venture capital – both in absolute terms and in per capita terms. The national average was $63.15 per capita.

- Venture capital investment across Canada was very volatile from 2003 to 2007, with most provinces trending downward. Saskatchewan had the second-highest increase in the country, with an average annual growth rate in venture capital investment per capita of 20.7 per cent during this period. B.C. had the biggest increase at 22.4 per cent, while Atlantic Canada, as a region, declined by 9.1 per cent. Nationally, the growth rate was 3.6 per cent.

Business Environment Indicators

22. Government Net Debt as a Percentage of GDP



What the Indicator Means

- Government net debt considers the financial assets and liabilities of all institutional units controlled and mainly financed by governments, as reported in the Public Accounts for each province. Expressing net debt relative to the size of the economy allows for comparisons between jurisdictions. The size of government debt and whether net debt is growing or shrinking as a percentage of GDP is a concern to investors: rising government debt may result in tax increases or service reductions, either of which can affect a business's ability to compete.

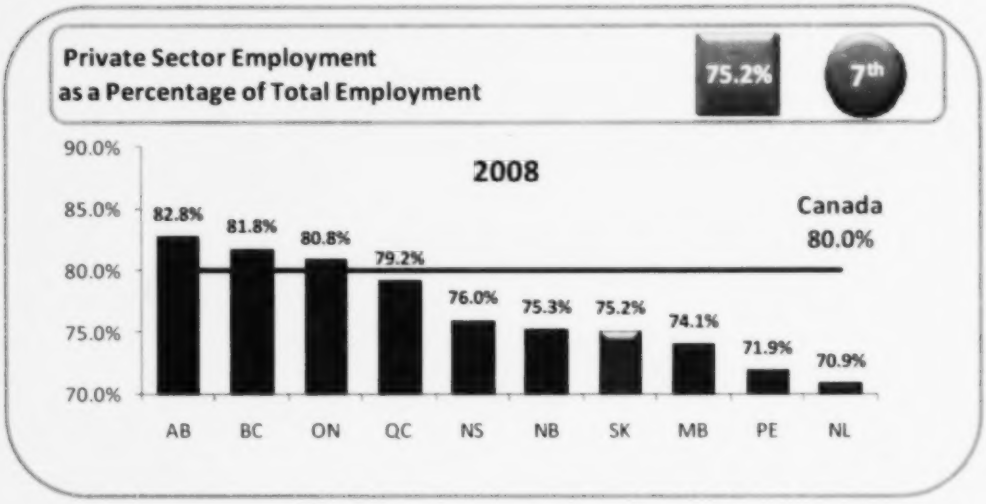
- A related indicator is the provincial bond rating, an indicator of credit quality. Independent rating services make evaluations of a bond issuer's financial strength, or ability to pay a bond's principal and interest in a timely fashion. The ratings are intended to be an impartial indication of whether or not a government is practicing sound fiscal management. Provincial bond ratings are not compared in this report, however, as net debt provides a similar measure and one which is easier to compare across provinces.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, the Saskatchewan government's net debt was 14.3 per cent of GDP, which was third-lowest among the provinces. The Canadian average was 20.7 per cent. Alberta led the provinces, with assets 16.9 per cent in excess of its liabilities (as a percentage of GDP).

- Government net debt as a percentage of GDP has been trending downward in all the provinces over the past five years. Saskatchewan's average annual rate of decline (3.7 per cent) was third-best in Canada from 2004 to 2008, behind Alberta (30.1 per cent increase in assets over liabilities) and B.C. (-6.4 per cent). The Canadian average in this period was -3.0 per cent.

23. Private Sector Employment as a Percentage of Total Employment



What the Indicator Means

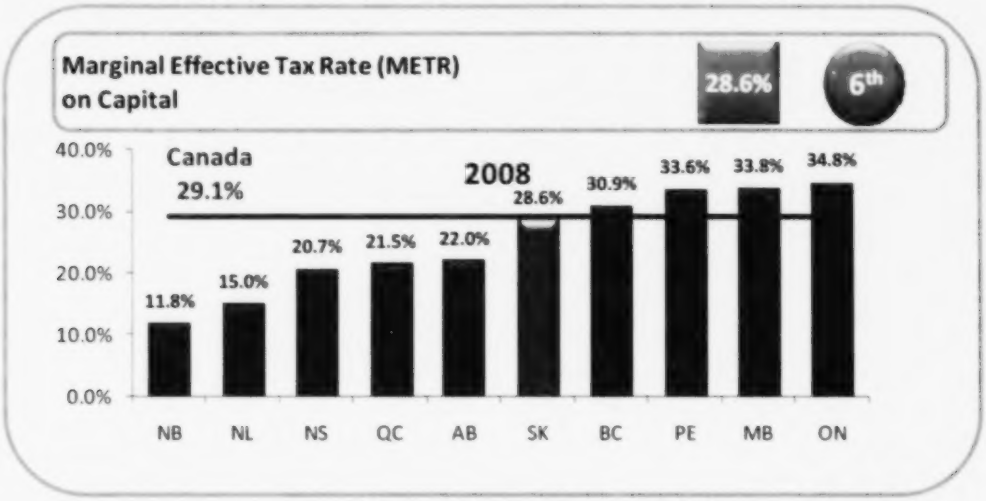
- This indicator compares the number of individuals employed by the private sector to total provincial employment. A high percentage of private sector employment reflects the performance of wealth-generating segments of the economy. Investors also prefer to see relatively high private sector employment since public sector employees are paid out of tax revenues.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, private sector employment accounted for 75.2 per cent of Saskatchewan's total employment. On this indicator, Saskatchewan ranked seventh among the provinces and below the national average of 80.0 per cent. Alberta had the largest share at 82.8 per cent, followed by B.C. at 81.8 per cent and Ontario at 80.8 per cent.

- In all four western provinces, the private sector's share of total employment declined slightly between 2004 and 2008. In 2004, the private sector's share of total employment in Saskatchewan stood at 75.5 per cent, compared with 83.8 per cent in Alberta and 80.9 per cent nationally. Saskatchewan's rank among the provinces in 2004 was also seventh.

24. Marginal Effective Tax Rate (METR) on Capital



What the Indicator Means

- The METR is a summary measure of the impact of taxation on capital investment decisions. It represents total tax paid as a percentage of the pre-tax rate of return on capital, taking into account corporate income taxes, sales taxes on capital purchases, and other capital-related taxes. The lower the METR, the more money per incremental dollar of investment that the investor retains.

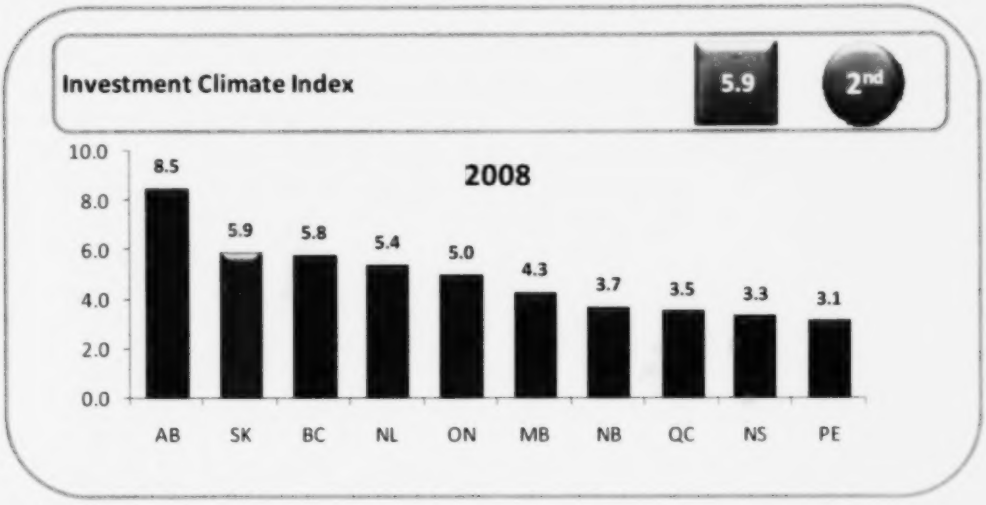
- Because it considers the combined effect of all sources of federal and provincial business taxation on incremental investment, the METR paints a more accurate picture of taxation levels than statutory tax rates alone. It should be noted, however, that METRs may differ between provinces, to a significant degree, as a result of differences in their economic and industrial structures.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, Saskatchewan had the sixth-lowest METR (28.6 per cent) among the provinces, and was lower than the Canadian average (29.1 per cent). New Brunswick (11.8 per cent), Newfoundland and Labrador (15.0), and Nova Scotia (20.7 per cent) had the lowest METRs in Canada. Alberta (22.0 per cent) was lower than Saskatchewan, but Ontario (34.8 per cent) had the highest METR in the country.

- METRs came down in all provinces between 2004 and 2008. Saskatchewan's METR declined at an average annual rate of 8.3 per cent, which was the third-largest reduction behind New Brunswick (-12.4 per cent) and Québec (-10.0 per cent), and ahead of Newfoundland and Labrador (-7.2 per cent) and Alberta (-7.5 per cent). The national average was -5.9 per cent.

25. Investment Climate Index



What the Indicator Means

- The Fraser Institute's *Canadian Provincial Investment Climate Report* is one of the few studies that attempts to quantify public policy impacts on the business environment. The study constructs an index based on seven factors identified by investment managers as having the greatest influence on the provincial investment climate: corporate income tax, fiscal prudence, personal income tax, transportation infrastructure, corporate capital tax, labour market regulation, and burden of regulation. Scores are reported out of 10, with 10 representing a perfect score.

How Saskatchewan Measures Up

- In 2008, *Saskatchewan* (5.9) was the second-highest ranking province behind Alberta (8.5). B.C. (5.8) was slightly behind Saskatchewan. Prince Edward Island (3.1), Nova Scotia (3.3), and Québec (3.5) were the lowest-ranking provinces. Saskatchewan has steadily improved its ranking in the index since 2004 when it held down sixth place among the provinces.

- With the *exception* of Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador, all of the provinces exhibited worsening performance from 2006 to 2008. Saskatchewan improved its index score by 10.9 per cent on average each year between 2006 and 2008, while Newfoundland and Labrador improved by 7.2 per cent each year.

Conclusion

In 2008 Saskatchewan had an exceptional year in terms of the traditional economic performance indicators, benefitting from the global resource boom which dominated much of the year. Saskatchewan was one of Canada's leading economic lights in 2008, recording the highest growth rate in real GDP and in real GDP per capita, the second-highest employment growth rate, the second-lowest unemployment rate, and the highest growth in personal disposable income per capita. Although the unemployment rate was low, a significant gap remained in the unemployment rates for youth and Métis and First Nations people, compared with the rest of the province's workforce.

Saskatchewan was among the top three provinces in all five "core" indicators contained in this report. Saskatchewan's population grew last year at the fastest rate in almost 50 years, supported by significant increases in both net international and inter-provincial migration. Saskatchewan led the provinces in 2008 in export and investment growth, and was second in manufacturing shipments growth. The province's personal savings rate moved into positive territory for the first time since 2004. Average weekly earnings posted the second-highest growth rate in Canada last year. There was room for improvement on new business formation, but Saskatchewan reported the second-lowest bankruptcy rate in the country in 2008.

The economic performance measures all suggest that in 2008, and generally over the last five years, Saskatchewan had a relatively high (and improving) standard of living, a healthy labour market, and a thriving resource-based economy. In light of the current global economic downturn, it is unlikely that the province's economy will perform at the same level in 2009 as it did last year. However, the province is well positioned to resume growth once the global recovery, widely expected for 2010, takes hold.

The story is not as good for indicators that measure Saskatchewan's innovation performance. Evaluated on the basis of innovation indicators, Saskatchewan is generally a below-average performer compared to the other provinces, although there are signs of improvement in a number of areas. Saskatchewan ranked ninth in terms of R&D spending, and the business sector accounts for a small, although growing, share of total R&D expenditures in the province. Saskatchewan ranked fourth in number of patents per capita, and had the second-highest growth rate among the provinces in this indicator between 2003 and 2007. Saskatchewan was fourth in terms of venture capital investment per capita and had the second-highest five-year growth rate, albeit in a period where most provinces fared poorly on this indicator. The province does reasonably well on the productivity indicator, but the number of post-secondary graduates in the workforce ranks only ninth among the provinces. The number of scientists and engineers in the economy is below average, but improving.

The indicators suggest that innovation remains a challenge for Saskatchewan. The province has been fairly successful at building human capital and investing in its resource base, but Saskatchewan needs to continue focusing on using its human and capital resources to generate new ideas and opportunities, commercialize new products and services, and create more employment in technology-based and high value-added industries.

Success in the innovation field will require that Saskatchewan continue to build a positive business environment. The Fraser Institute's Investment Climate Index placed Saskatchewan second-highest in Canada in 2008, and the province's ranking on this index has improved steadily since 2004, when Saskatchewan was in sixth place among Canada's provinces. This improvement reflects lower levels of corporate and personal taxation, and greater fiscal prudence. Saskatchewan had the second-lowest net debt as a percentage of GDP in 2008. The Investment Climate Index pointed to the need for further enhancements to Saskatchewan's infrastructure and regulatory regime. Other indicators, such as the

METR, suggest that Saskatchewan is in the middle of the pack on tax competitiveness, and that the province will need to consider taxation and other factors as it examines what needs to be done to maintain a strong environment for business activity and to build up the province's private sector.

Improving the province's business, economic and innovation performance will secure Saskatchewan's prosperity for the benefit of current and future generations of Saskatchewan residents.

Appendices

List of Abbreviations

AAGR – Average Annual Growth Rate

BERD -- Business Expenditures on Research and Development

CPI – Consumer Price Index

OECD -- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

GDP -- Gross Domestic Product

GERD -- Gross Expenditures on Research and Development

METR – Marginal Effective Tax Rate (on capital)

NAICS – North American Industry Classification System

R&D -- Research and Development

VC – Venture Capital

Tables

Core Indicators

1. Real GDP by Province ($million of 2002 chained dollars)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	$1,211,239	$1,246,064	$1,284,819	$1,319,681	$1,325,718	9.5%	1.8%		0.5%	
Newfoundland	$17,209	$17,531	$18,058	$19,696	$19,680	14.4%	2.7%	1	-0.1%	7
Prince Edward Island	$3,877	$3,955	$4,051	$4,149	$4,187	8.0%	1.6%	6	0.9%	5
Nova Scotia	$27,710	$28,069	$28,328	$28,803	$29,380	6.0%	1.2%	9	2.0%	3
New Brunswick	$22,366	$22,727	$23,280	$23,669	$23,665	5.8%	1.1%	10	0.0%	6
Québec	$251,028	$254,708	$259,032	$265,888	$268,609	7.0%	1.4%	8	1.0%	4
Ontario	$496,780	$510,626	$524,105	$536,340	$534,036	7.5%	1.5%	7	-0.4%	10
Manitoba	$37,861	$38,783	$40,344	$41,662	$42,655	12.7%	2.4%	3	2.4%	2
Saskatchewan	**$37,741**	**$38,970**	**$38,860**	**$39,834**	**$41,578**	**10.2%**	**2.0%**	**5**	**4.4%**	**1**
Alberta	$163,564	$171,416	$181,791	$187,493	$187,028	14.3%	2.7%	2	-0.2%	8
British Columbia	$146,541	$152,998	$159,733	$164,583	$164,161	12.0%	2.3%	4	-0.3%	9

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 384-0002

2. Population

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	31,940,676	32,245,209	32,576,074	32,927,372	33,311,389	4.3%	0.8%		1.2%	
Newfoundland	517,447	514,363	510,313	506,459	507,895	-1.8%	-0.4%	10	0.3%	8
Prince Edward Island	137,674	138,055	137,920	138,118	139,818	1.6%	0.3%	7	1.2%	4
Nova Scotia	939,376	937,941	938,010	936,039	938,310	-0.1%	0.0%	8	0.2%	10
New Brunswick	749,369	747,960	745,674	745,370	747,302	-0.3%	-0.1%	9	0.3%	9
Québec	7,535,929	7,581,911	7,631,552	7,686,038	7,750,504	2.8%	0.6%	5	0.8%	7
Ontario	12,390,599	12,528,480	12,665,346	12,793,572	12,928,996	4.3%	0.9%	3	1.1%	6
Manitoba	1,173,566	1,178,301	1,184,031	1,193,514	1,207,959	2.9%	0.6%	4	1.2%	5
Saskatchewan	**997,447**	**993,579**	**992,122**	**999,697**	**1,015,985**	**1.9%**	**0.4%**	**6**	**1.6%**	**3**
Alberta	3,239,471	3,322,200	3,421,253	3,510,892	3,585,142	10.7%	2.0%	1	2.1%	1
British Columbia	4,155,170	4,196,788	4,243,580	4,310,305	4,381,603	5.4%	1.1%	2	1.7%	2

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0001

3. Employment (in 000s)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	15,947	16,170	16,484	16,866	17,126	7.4%	1.4%		1.5%	
Newfoundland	214	214	216	217	220	2.8%	0.6%	9	1.5%	5
Prince Edward Island	67	68	69	69	70	4.9%	1.0%	7	1.3%	7
Nova Scotia	442	443	442	448	453	2.5%	0.5%	10	1.3%	8
New Brunswick	350	351	355	363	366	4.6%	0.9%	8	0.9%	9
Québec	3,681	3,717	3,765	3,852	3,882	5.5%	1.1%	5	0.8%	10
Ontario	6,317	6,398	6,493	6,594	6,687	5.9%	1.1%	4	1.4%	6
Manitoba	577	580	587	597	607	5.2%	1.0%	6	1.7%	4
Saskatchewan	**480**	**484**	**492**	**502**	**513**	**6.9%**	**1.3%**	**3**	**2.2%**	**2**
Alberta	1,758	1,784	1,871	1,959	2,013	14.6%	2.8%	1	2.8%	1
British Columbia	2,063	2,131	2,196	2,266	2,314	12.2%	2.3%	2	2.1%	3

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

4. Personal Disposable Income per capita

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	$23,768	$24,566	$26,022	$27,244	$28,591	20.3%	3.8%		4.9%	
Newfoundland	$19,455	$20,134	$25,358	$24,975	$24,513	26.0%	4.7%	3	-1.8%	10
Prince Edward Island	$19,759	$20,421	$21,539	$22,456	$23,194	17.4%	3.3%	8	3.3%	9
Nova Scotia	$21,415	$22,436	$23,386	$24,370	$25,404	18.6%	3.5%	6	4.2%	7
New Brunswick	$21,014	$21,711	$22,661	$23,682	$24,871	18.4%	3.4%	7	5.0%	5
Québec	$21,962	$22,520	$23,294	$24,455	$25,494	16.1%	3.0%	10	4.2%	6
Ontario	$24,829	$25,447	$26,738	$27,714	$28,847	16.2%	3.0%	9	4.1%	8
Manitoba	$21,984	$22,485	$23,669	$25,126	$26,397	20.1%	3.7%	5	5.1%	4
Saskatchewan	**$22,004**	**$22,338**	**$23,497**	**$25,346**	**$28,281**	**28.5%**	**5.1%**	**2**	**11.6%**	**1**
Alberta	$27,915	$30,012	$33,134	$35,208	$37,189	33.2%	5.9%	1	5.6%	3
British Columbia	$23,051	$23,866	$25,510	$26,794	$28,616	24.1%	4.4%	4	6.8%	2

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 384-0013

5. Manufacturing Shipments by Province ($millions)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	$583,081.9	$600,349.6	$607,380.3	$607,343.9	$604,260.7	3.6%	0.7%		-0.5%	
Newfoundland	$2,513.2	$2,781.9	$4,356.4	$5,257.6	$6,638.5	164.2%	21.4%	1	26.3%	1
Prince Edward Island	$1,246.4	$1,276.8	$1,412.7	$1,428.6	$1,365.8	9.6%	1.8%	8	-4.4%	8
Nova Scotia	$9,604.8	$10,017.9	$9,655.0	$9,873.7	$10,773.6	12.2%	2.3%	6	9.1%	4
New Brunswick	$14,191.8	$15,248.1	$14,835.7	$15,679.6	$17,879.6	26.0%	4.7%	4	14.0%	3
Québec	$134,849.5	$140,084.5	$146,657.0	$148,260.3	$150,746.2	11.8%	2.3%	7	1.7%	7
Ontario	$302,907.7	$304,036.9	$296,105.2	$291,692.9	$278,081.4	-8.2%	-1.7%	10	-4.7%	9
Manitoba	$13,261.8	$13,702.3	$14,854.2	$16,111.3	$16,397.0	23.6%	4.3%	5	1.8%	6
Saskatchewan	**$9,159.6**	**$9,656.1**	**$10,080.5**	**$10,435.8**	**$12,261.4**	**33.9%**	**6.0%**	**2**	**17.5%**	**2**
Alberta	$53,608.4	$60,439.1	$64,381.8	$65,592.5	$70,107.8	30.8%	5.5%	3	6.9%	5
British Columbia	$41,630.2	$42,983.8	$44,943.9	$42,929.5	$39,929.0	-4.1%	-0.8%	9	-7.0%	10

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Tables 304-0014 and 304-0015

Economic Performance Indicators

6. Real GDP per Capita (Chained 2002 Dollars)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	$37,922	$38,643	$39,441	$40,079	$39,798	4.9%	1.0%		-0.7%	
Newfoundland	$33,258	$34,083	$35,386	$38,890	$38,748	16.5%	3.1%	1	-0.4%	7
Prince Edward Island	$28,161	$28,648	$29,372	$30,040	$29,946	6.3%	1.2%	4	-0.3%	6
Nova Scotia	$29,498	$29,926	$30,200	$30,771	$31,312	6.1%	1.2%	6	1.8%	2
New Brunswick	$29,846	$30,385	$31,220	$31,755	$31,667	6.1%	1.2%	7	-0.3%	5
Québec	$33,311	$33,594	$33,942	$34,594	$34,657	4.0%	0.8%	8	0.2%	4
Ontario	$40,093	$40,757	$41,381	$41,923	$41,305	3.0%	0.6%	10	-1.5%	8
Manitoba	$32,262	$32,914	$34,073	$34,907	$35,312	9.5%	1.8%	2	1.2%	3
Saskatchewan	**$37,838**	**$39,222**	**$39,169**	**$39,846**	**$40,924**	**8.2%**	**1.6%**	**3**	**2.7%**	**1**
Alberta	$50,491	$51,597	$53,136	$53,403	$52,168	3.3%	0.7%	9	-2.3%	10
British Columbia	$35,267	$36,456	$37,641	$38,184	$37,466	6.2%	1.2%	5	-1.9%	9

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 384-0013

7. Total Migration Rate

	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	Rank
Canada	6.7	6.7	7.0	6.9	7.7	
Newfoundland	-3.2	-6.6	-8.6	-7.5	3.4	8
Prince Edward Island	2.1	1.1	-2.1	-0.2	10.6	4
Nova Scotia	0.9	-2.3	-1.0	-2.4	2.4	9
New Brunswick	0.0	-1.9	-3.5	-1.6	1.6	10
Québec	5.0	4.2	3.8	3.6	4.5	7
Ontario	8.9	8.0	7.5	6.1	6.8	6
Manitoba	3.9	-0.3	0.1	3.9	8.0	5
Saskatchewan	**-2.6**	**-7.6**	**-5.3**	**4.3**	**12.7**	**3**
Alberta	7.6	15.3	19.6	18.1	13.2	2
British Columbia	9.6	11.7	12.1	12.8	13.5	1

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0001

8. Unemployment Rate

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	7.2%	6.8%	6.3%	6.0%	6.1%	
Newfoundland	15.7%	15.2%	14.8%	13.6%	13.2%	10
Prince Edward Island	11.3%	10.8%	11.0%	10.3%	10.8%	9
Nova Scotia	8.8%	8.4%	7.9%	8.0%	7.7%	7
New Brunswick	9.8%	9.7%	8.8%	7.5%	8.6%	8
Québec	8.5%	8.3%	8.0%	7.2%	7.2%	6
Ontario	6.8%	6.6%	6.3%	6.4%	6.5%	5
Manitoba	5.3%	4.8%	4.3%	4.4%	4.2%	3
Saskatchewan	**5.3%**	**5.1%**	**4.7%**	**4.2%**	**4.1%**	**2**
Alberta	4.6%	3.9%	3.4%	3.5%	3.6%	1
British Columbia	7.2%	5.9%	4.8%	4.2%	4.6%	4

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

9. Average Weekly Earnings

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	$709.41	$737.29	$755.50	$788.17	$810.45	14.2%	2.7%		2.8%	
Newfoundland	$655.23	$681.93	$705.97	$735.95	$766.43	17.0%	3.2%	4	4.1%	3
Prince Edward Island	$584.04	$604.78	$625.27	$647.65	$661.57	13.3%	2.5%	7	2.1%	9
Nova Scotia	$626.78	$658.41	$674.72	$695.82	$713.92	13.9%	2.6%	6	2.6%	7
New Brunswick	$626.68	$651.29	$672.37	$706.65	$729.26	16.4%	3.1%	5	3.2%	4
Québec	$673.69	$695.58	$708.43	$739.44	$751.20	11.5%	2.2%	10	1.6%	10
Ontario	$748.48	$775.96	$788.41	$819.12	$837.47	11.9%	2.3%	9	2.2%	8
Manitoba	$641.83	$671.11	$690.55	$731.21	$750.82	17.0%	3.2%	3	2.7%	6
Saskatchewan	**$656.15**	**$684.18**	**$710.98**	**$749.84**	**$785.71**	**19.7%**	**3.7%**	**2**	**4.8%**	**2**
Alberta	$741.10	$784.15	$823.48	$871.27	$923.41	24.6%	4.5%	1	6.0%	1
British Columbia	$698.67	$724.20	$745.34	$769.81	$790.97	13.2%	2.5%	8	2.7%	5

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 281-0027

10. Personal Savings Rate

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	3.2%	2.0%	3.1%	2.7%	3.7%	
Newfoundland	-0.9%	-1.8%	15.2%	8.2%	1.0%	6
Prince Edward Island	-4.2%	-5.5%	-5.2%	-6.8%	-8.6%	10
Nova Scotia	-1.3%	-1.4%	-1.7%	-2.3%	-3.0%	9
New Brunswick	4.0%	3.0%	2.2%	1.1%	0.8%	7
Québec	3.8%	2.2%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%	5
Ontario	3.9%	2.3%	3.5%	2.9%	3.6%	2
Manitoba	3.3%	0.8%	1.5%	1.7%	2.8%	3
Saskatchewan	**1.9%**	**-1.7%**	**-2.5%**	**-2.0%**	**2.6%**	**4**
Alberta	9.0%	9.8%	11.7%	11.4%	14.3%	1
British Columbia	-4.6%	-5.4%	-4.3%	-4.9%	-2.9%	8

Source: Statistics Canada, Provincial Accounts

11. Exports of Goods by Province ($millions)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	$412,290	$436,351	$440,364	$450,699	$483,793	17.3%	3.3%		7.3%	
Newfoundland	$7,166	$8,107	$9,599	$11,594	$14,646	104.4%	15.4%	2	26.3%	3
Prince Edward Island	$667	$810	$838	$803	$878	31.7%	5.7%	6	9.4%	5
Nova Scotia	$5,810	$5,803	$5,194	$5,451	$5,802	-0.1%	0.0%	9	6.4%	6
New Brunswick	$9,480	$10,726	$10,420	$11,202	$12,804	35.1%	6.2%	5	14.3%	4
Québec	$68,478	$70,992	$73,177	$69,923	$70,949	3.6%	0.7%	8	1.5%	9
Ontario	$199,007	$200,821	$198,767	$202,481	$188,553	-5.3%	-1.1%	10	-6.9%	10
Manitoba	$9,438	$9,477	$10,438	$12,445	$12,898	36.7%	6.4%	4	3.6%	8
Saskatchewan	**$13,460**	**$14,933**	**$16,398**	**$19,744**	**$31,159**	**131.5%**	**18.3%**	**1**	**57.8%**	**1**
Alberta	$64,539	$77,405	$79,004	$82,753	$109,919	70.3%	11.2%	3	32.8%	2
British Columbia	$32,261	$35,575	$34,880	$32,394	$33,681	4.4%	0.9%	7	4.0%	7

Source: Statistics Canada, Industry Canada's Trade Data Online

12. Capital Investments for Canada and all the Provinces ($millions)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2008-04 % Change	2008-04 AAGR	2008-04 Rank	2008-07 % Change	2008-07 Rank
Canada	$247,881.7	$273,225.3	$305,410.2	$328,804.6	$346,018.2	39.6%	6.9%		5.2%	
Newfoundland	$4,243.2	$4,576.1	$4,358.8	$4,217.3	$4,357.2	2.7%	0.5%	10	3.3%	6
Prince Edward Island	$723.6	$758.8	$827.3	$949.8	$957.5	32.3%	5.8%	6	0.8%	8
Nova Scotia	$5,696.9	$6,004.9	$6,337.4	$6,628.3	$6,590.7	15.7%	3.0%	9	-0.6%	10
New Brunswick	$4,404.7	$4,743.0	$5,686.0	$6,031.8	$6,162.4	39.9%	6.9%	5	2.2%	7
Québec	$49,767.2	$49,469.5	$51,809.4	$57,054.8	$62,132.3	24.8%	4.5%	7	8.9%	4
Ontario	$86,278.2	$91,215.3	$98,557.1	$103,237.5	$104,047.7	20.6%	3.8%	8	0.8%	9
Manitoba	$6,698.9	$6,836.1	$7,837.3	$8,902.5	$10,386.1	55.0%	9.2%	4	16.7%	2
Saskatchewan	**$7,466.9**	**$8,877.5**	**$10,272.7**	**$11,709.6**	**$14,024.0**	**87.8%**	**13.4%**	**1**	**19.8%**	**1**
Alberta	$50,807.7	$65,033.9	$76,923.7	$83,932.5	$86,981.3	71.2%	11.4%	2	3.6%	5
British Columbia	$29,664.7	$33,254.2	$39,912.2	$42,669.6	$46,689.2	57.4%	9.5%	3	9.4%	3

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 029-0005

13. Number of Businesses Per Capita

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	32.6	32.6	32.8	32.7	32.5	
Newfoundland	33.1	32.7	32.5	35.5	33.8	6
Prince Edward Island	47.3	45.9	44.2	44.5	42.1	1
Nova Scotia	32.2	32.2	32.2	32.7	32.1	7
New Brunswick	35.2	34.6	34.7	34.8	34.1	5
Québec	31.5	31.5	31.1	30.9	30.5	8
Ontario	28.0	28.0	28.1	28.6	28.7	10
Manitoba	30.4	29.9	30.1	29.3	28.8	9
Saskatchewan	**39.3**	**39.1**	**38.9**	**36.8**	**36.2**	**4**
Alberta	43.3	43.1	43.5	42.5	41.8	2
British Columbia	38.1	38.8	39.6	39.1	38.7	3

Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

14. Business Bankruptcy Rate

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	3.5	3.4	2.9	2.6	2.6	
Newfoundland	2.1	2.2	1.7	2.0	4.3	1
Prince Edward Island	3.7	4.1	3.9	2.9	2.4	6
Nova Scotia	4.7	5.2	4.4	3.6	3.9	2
New Brunswick	4.5	4.8	4.5	3.4	3.5	4
Québec	3.8	3.7	3.8	4.2	3.5	3
Ontario	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.6	5
Manitoba	2.3	2.0	2.1	1.3	1.8	7
Saskatchewan	**3.8**	**3.9**	**3.2**	**2.1**	**1.6**	**8**
Alberta	5.0	3.9	2.1	1.4	1.5	10
British Columbia	2.7	2.4	1.7	1.3	1.6	9

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada

15. Productivity (Real GDP Per Hour Worked)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007-03 % Change	2007-03 AAGR	2007-03 Rank	2007-06 % Change	2007-06 Rank
Canada	$42.56	$42.69	$43.56	$44.12	$44.45	4.4%	0.9%		0.7%	
Newfoundland	$47.39	$46.13	$46.78	$47.18	$51.41	8.5%	1.6%	1	9.0%	1
Prince Edward Island	$31.91	$33.02	$32.80	$32.82	$34.08	6.8%	1.3%	3	3.8%	2
Nova Scotia	$35.78	$35.91	$35.90	$36.48	$36.51	2.1%	0.4%	9	0.1%	8
New Brunswick	$34.73	$35.39	$36.03	$36.23	$36.51	5.1%	1.0%	4	0.8%	6
Québec	$40.61	$40.65	$41.19	$41.52	$42.27	4.1%	0.8%	8	1.8%	3
Ontario	$43.67	$43.68	$44.62	$45.18	$45.65	4.5%	0.9%	6	1.0%	5
Manitoba	$36.32	$36.45	$37.42	$38.51	$39.11	7.7%	1.5%	2	1.6%	4
Saskatchewan	**$41.48**	**$42.98**	**$44.10**	**$43.23**	**$43.50**	**4.9%**	**1.0%**	**5**	**0.6%**	**7**
Alberta	$48.37	$49.20	$50.86	$51.53	$50.47	4.3%	0.9%	7	-2.1%	10
British Columbia	$41.52	$40.95	$41.70	$42.40	$42.24	1.7%	0.3%	10	-0.4%	9

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Tables 384-0002 and 383-0010

Innovation Indicators

16. Post-Secondary Graduates as a Percentage of Employment

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	55.3%	56.9%	57.6%	58.5%	58.8%	
Newfoundland	58.1%	59.8%	58.5%	59.7%	59.9%	3
Prince Edward Island	56.2%	54.5%	53.6%	53.0%	53.3%	8
Nova Scotia	59.0%	58.4%	58.3%	57.9%	57.0%	4
New Brunswick	53.1%	52.4%	53.8%	54.2%	55.9%	5
Québec	59.5%	61.4%	62.5%	63.2%	62.8%	1
Ontario	55.5%	57.6%	58.8%	60.1%	60.6%	2
Manitoba	47.9%	49.0%	48.8%	48.4%	49.5%	10
Saskatchewan	**49.1%**	**49.8%**	**48.9%**	**49.2%**	**49.8%**	**9**
Alberta	51.5%	53.9%	53.5%	54.4%	55.1%	7
British Columbia	53.4%	53.4%	54.4%	54.9%	55.6%	6

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

17. Science and Engineering Employment as a Percentage of Total Employment

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	6.6%	6.9%	6.9%	7.0%	7.1%	
Newfoundland	5.2%	6.3%	6.1%	6.8%	5.8%	6
Prince Edward Island	4.8%	5.6%	6.3%	5.5%	4.7%	10
Nova Scotia	5.6%	5.6%	5.8%	5.7%	5.3%	8
New Brunswick	5.9%	5.9%	5.0%	5.8%	5.8%	5
Québec	7.0%	6.8%	7.0%	7.3%	7.1%	3
Ontario	6.9%	7.3%	7.2%	7.4%	7.6%	2
Manitoba	5.3%	4.9%	4.7%	5.6%	5.7%	7
Saskatchewan	**4.0%**	**4.3%**	**4.5%**	**4.6%**	**5.1%**	**9**
Alberta	7.2%	7.6%	7.5%	7.9%	7.6%	1
British Columbia	5.8%	6.4%	6.9%	6.4%	6.6%	4

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

18. Research and Development (R&D) Expenditures as a Percentage of GDP

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Rank
Canada	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	1.9%	
Newfoundland	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	1.3%	1.2%	7
Prince Edward Island	0.8%	1.1%	1.0%	1.5%	1.5%	4
Nova Scotia	1.5%	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	3
New Brunswick	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	10
Québec	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.5%	2.5%	1
Ontario	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	2
Manitoba	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	6
Saskatchewan	**1.2%**	**1.0%**	**1.0%**	**1.1%**	**1.0%**	**9**
Alberta	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	8
British Columbia	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	5

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 358-0001

19. Percentage of R&D Expenditures Funded by Business

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Rank
Canada	51.5%	50.4%	50.0%	48.9%	49.6%	
Newfoundland	15.0%	18.0%	21.0%	36.4%	38.6%	5
Prince Edward Island	12.9%	11.9%	15.4%	13.3%	17.7%	10
Nova Scotia	21.0%	17.2%	18.6%	22.2%	23.4%	9
New Brunswick	29.4%	31.1%	37.6%	37.8%	38.3%	6
Québec	55.6%	54.8%	54.5%	52.5%	55.3%	2
Ontario	59.0%	57.6%	56.5%	56.1%	55.5%	1
Manitoba	33.9%	33.8%	34.9%	34.1%	34.4%	8
Saskatchewan	**26.9%**	**24.6%**	**29.1%**	**33.8%**	**36.2%**	**7**
Alberta	47.6%	45.4%	49.6%	49.1%	50.6%	3
British Columbia	48.8%	47.0%	41.4%	39.0%	39.1%	4

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 358-0001

20. Number of Patents Per 100,000 people

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Rank
Canada	4.1	3.5	4.5	5.2	5.5	
Newfoundland	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.2	10
Prince Edward Island	0.7	0.7	2.2	0.0	1.4	8
Nova Scotia	1.4	0.3	2.0	2.1	1.8	7
New Brunswick	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.3	9
Québec	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.6	5.4	3
Ontario	3.9	4.8	4.7	5.7	5.9	2
Manitoba	3.8	3.2	3.9	3.5	3.6	6
Saskatchewan	**2.5**	**4.9**	**6.1**	**6.1**	**4.2**	**4**
Alberta	6.7	8.5	8.8	9.5	10.3	1
British Columbia	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.8	5

Source: Canadian Intellectual Property Office Annual Reports.

21. Venture Capital Investment Per Capita

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Rank
Canada	$52.91	$53.00	$52.01	$56.42	$63.15	
Atlantic Provinces	$23.48	$13.65	$15.40	$15.87	$14.60	7
Québec	$82.96	$80.02	$72.80	$81.24	$84.11	1
Ontario	$62.08	$55.36	$60.26	$66.64	$74.09	2
Manitoba	$24.06	$21.30	$9.34	$19.43	$15.50	6
Saskatchewan	**$23.08**	**$17.04**	**$29.19**	**$36.29**	**$59.17**	**4**
Alberta	$24.19	$10.50	$19.57	$7.60	$16.42	5
British Columbia	$26.68	$71.72	$54.80	$59.62	$73.25	3

Source: Canada's Venture Capital Association Annual Statistical Reviews.

Business Environment Indicators

22. Government Net Debt as a Percentage of GDP

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Rank
Canada	24.3%	23.3%	22.2%	21.1%	20.7%	
Newfoundland	66.7%	67.8%	64.7%	58.7%	55.0%	10
Prince Edward Island	33.9%	33.6%	32.7%	31.6%	32.6%	7
Nova Scotia	44.5%	43.8%	43.2%	42.9%	41.2%	9
New Brunswick	31.1%	30.0%	28.8%	27.8%	29.5%	6
Québec	34.4%	34.2%	35.4%	36.0%	35.2%	8
Ontario	27.9%	27.5%	27.1%	26.3%	26.7%	5
Manitoba	29.4%	27.6%	26.1%	25.0%	24.5%	4
Saskatchewan	**18.7%**	**17.7%**	**17.1%**	**16.2%**	**14.3%**	**3**
Alberta	-6.4%	-8.8%	-12.6%	-16.2%	-16.9%	1
British Columbia	19.7%	17.7%	16.2%	14.1%	13.6%	2

Source: Department of Finance Canada, Fiscal Reference Tables

23. Private Sector Employment as a Percentage of Total Employment

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	80.9%	80.7%	80.6%	80.5%	80.0%	
Newfoundland	73.3%	73.6%	74.0%	72.4%	70.9%	10
Prince Edward Island	72.5%	73.3%	74.9%	74.2%	71.9%	9
Nova Scotia	76.5%	76.3%	76.2%	76.1%	76.0%	5
New Brunswick	76.7%	76.1%	76.6%	76.3%	75.3%	6
Québec	79.3%	78.9%	79.2%	79.3%	79.2%	4
Ontario	82.5%	82.2%	82.0%	81.8%	80.8%	3
Manitoba	74.6%	74.9%	75.1%	74.7%	74.1%	8
Saskatchewan	**75.5%**	**75.3%**	**75.4%**	**75.3%**	**75.2%**	**7**
Alberta	83.8%	83.2%	82.6%	82.8%	82.8%	1
British Columbia	82.2%	82.6%	82.2%	82.3%	81.8%	2

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

24. Marginal Effective Tax Rate on Capital

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Canada	39.4%	39.0%	36.6%	32.2%	29.1%	
Newfoundland	21.8%	21.4%	19.2%	11.4%	15.0%	9
Prince Edward Island	36.5%	37.7%	36.7%	30.6%	33.6%	3
Nova Scotia	28.7%	28.2%	26.0%	17.5%	20.7%	8
New Brunswick	22.9%	22.5%	19.6%	6.6%	11.8%	10
Québec	36.5%	36.3%	30.8%	25.2%	21.5%	7
Ontario	43.7%	43.4%	42.2%	37.0%	34.8%	1
Manitoba	40.4%	39.7%	37.9%	32.5%	33.8%	2
Saskatchewan	**44.2%**	**43.8%**	**38.3%**	**30.2%**	**28.6%**	**5**
Alberta	32.4%	31.8%	29.0%	23.0%	22.0%	6
British Columbia	40.2%	39.3%	37.3%	31.6%	30.9%	4

Source: C.D. Howe Institute

25. Investment Climate Index

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Rank
Newfoundland	-	-	4.7	4.6	5.4	4
Prince Edward Island	-	-	4.1	2.6	3.1	10
Nova Scotia	-	-	4.5	3.2	3.3	9
New Brunswick	-	-	4.8	3.9	3.7	7
Québec	-	-	3.5	3.0	3.5	8
Ontario	-	-	5.9	5.0	5.0	5
Manitoba	-	-	5.4	4.2	4.3	6
Saskatchewan	-	-	**4.8**	**5.3**	**5.9**	**2**
Alberta	-	-	8.7	8.9	8.5	1
British Columbia	-	-	6.7	6.0	5.8	3

Source: Fraser Institute

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